

'Britain to re-register Kuwaiti tanker'

WASHINGTON (R) — Britain will join Washington in reregistering Kuwaiti oil tankers, the U.S. State Department said Monday. "We understand that the United Kingdom will reflag its first Kuwaiti oil tanker," spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said without elaborating on how the information was gained. "We welcome actions such as this that contribute to the maintenance of free navigation and to the safety of commercial shipping in international waters or in the Gulf," she told reporters. Oakley did not specify how many Kuwaiti tankers London would re-register as British ships or when it would happen. Britain had previously shown only lukewarm interest in a Kuwaiti request that some of its tankers fly the British flag and the decision followed a reversal of a previous refusal to send minesweepers to the Gulf, Oakley said. Washington was also discussing chartering two American tankers to Kuwait, but no decision had been made yet. British naval vessels have been in the area for some time and have escorted British merchant vessels into the Gulf.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Iran president messages Gulf leaders

ABU DHABI (AP) — Iranian President Ali Khamenei on Monday sent a message to the president of the United Arab Emirates, who has been seeking Syria's help to end the Gulf war. The official Emirates News Agency (WAM) reported the message but did not give any details as to its contents. It said the message was to the president, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan, was delivered by the director-general of the political department of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, Mohammad Hussein Luwani, to the crown prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed. Sheikh Zayed is currently in West Germany on a private visit after his five-day trip to Syria last week where he held talks with President Hafez Al Assad on the Gulf war. The Iranian president meanwhile also sent a message with Mr. Luwani to the ruler of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, the Qatar News Agency reported from Doha. The agency said the message dealt with current developments in the Gulf region.

Volume 12 Number 3559

AMMAN, TUESDAY AUGUST 25, 1987, HIJRI 1, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Dutch mosque damaged in arson

THE HAGUE (AP) — A Dutch mosque was damaged in an apparent arson attack here early Monday in the third such incident this month, police said. No-one was injured in the fire at the Al Madina Mosque, which started around 1 a.m. local time (2300 GMT Sunday), according to a police spokesman. Police investigating the fire found that it had apparently been started with rags doused in a combustible liquid. There had not been any claim of responsibility. The Al Madina Mosque caters to Sunni Muslims in this nation's 180,000-strong Surinamese community.

Iranian rebels report attack

BAGHDAD (R) — A leading anti-Iranian exile group said its fighters occupied 15 square kilometres of Iranian territory in a surprise attack on Friday on army bases near Mehran, in west Iran. The Baghdad-based Mujahideen-e-Khalq said its fighters killed or wounded 110 guards, took 11 others prisoner and destroyed a large quantity of war equipment in the attack. The movement said its fighters had launched 82 attacks on Iranian army and Revolutionary Guards bases since last January, killing or wounding 2,960 Iranians and taking 140 prisoners.

Pan Am trial begins

RAWALPINDI (R) — Five Pakistanis accused of hijacking an American jetliner last year ended a boycott of their Pakistani trial on Monday but said they would continue a hunger strike against jail conditions. The defendants were brought shackled and handcuffed to the courtroom inside the heavily guarded Rawalpindi central jail and sat on a wooden bench before the judge. But arguments over a defence challenge to the judge's jurisdiction delayed for the second day the start of the trial for the Sept. 5 hijacking of the Pan Am jumbo jet at Karachi in which 22 people were killed and 100 injured.

Non-white minister quits Botha cabinet

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa's only coloured (mixed race) cabinet minister, the Rev. Allan Hendrickse, announced on Monday that he was quitting the government and accused President P.W. Botha of insensitivity. The minister said the House of Representatives, a junior parliamentary chamber which Mr. Botha set up in 1984 for people classified as coloured, that Mr. Botha's attacks prompted his resignation.

Israel issues warrant for Vanunu's brother

TEL AVIV (AP) — The brother of Mordechai Vanunu, a former Israeli nuclear technician held on charges of spilling his country's atomic secrets, said Monday Israeli authorities issued a warrant for his arrest after he talked to reporters about the case. Meir Vanunu, 31, who has lived in London for the last few weeks, said he did not plan to return to Israel and considered requesting political asylum in Britain. "There's one brother (Mordechai) who needs help, and we don't need another brother who needs help," Meir Vanunu said in an interview with Israeli army radio.

INSIDE

- Pentagon said to have 'secret army,' page 2
- Doctors perform Jordan's first balloon heart valve operation, page 3
- Reza Pahlavi restake claim to peacock throne, page 4
- Hungerford massacre rekindles debate over screen violence, page 5
- Six leading teams vie for top slots in Asian handball, page 6
- OPEC overproduction likely to increase, page 7
- Questions raised over reliability of MX, page 8

Arab League continues talks on stand towards Iran amid summit calls

Combined agency dispatches

TUNIS — Arab foreign ministers continued discussions on Monday on a united Arab stand towards Iran amid calls for an urgent Arab summit to discuss the Iran-Iraq war and the tension in the Gulf in the wake of Tehran's threats against Gulf Arab states.

Delegates attending the talks, which began Sunday, were quoted as saying by news agencies that they expected the 21 Arab League members present at the meeting to take a hard line towards Iran but short of recommending the severing of Arab ties with Tehran.

The delegates said the Arab League Council of Ministers meeting would certainly urge the United Nations Security Council to apply sanctions against Iran for ignoring the council's appeal for an immediate ceasefire, which Iraq has accepted.

Sanctions would not be designed to punish Iran but to prevent an extension of the war to other states in the region such as

Kuwait, they said.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa told the meeting Damascus fully supported Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and all the other Gulf states "threatened by the Iran-Iraq war," delegates said. He held Iraq responsible for the conflict.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said it was the Arab duty to support Iraq, which had demonstrated its solidarity with Arab states in conflict with Israel, delegates said.

The meeting, requested by Tunisia to discuss the Gulf war and the risks of it spreading throughout the region, resumed Monday evening consultations and a three-hour session Sunday

night. Tunisian Foreign Minister Hedi Mabrouk said discussions among the delegates outside the formal meeting had failed to produce a consensus on breaking or freezing relations with Iran.

He said the idea was opposed by Syria, Algeria, South Yemen, Libya and Gulf states including the United Arab Emirates and Oman. Mr. Mabrouk said it was agreed that no such proposal should appear on the formal agenda.

Other Arab states, led by Saudi Arabia whose foreign minister Saud Al Faisal chaired the meeting, were taking a tough line with Iran. Prince Saud accused Tehran of "terrorist and destructive" actions against the Arab and Islamic worlds, particularly its neighbours in the Gulf.

Delegates said Jordan, Libya, Kuwait and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) among others had proposed an urgent Arab summit on the Gulf war.

A full Arab summit has not been held for nearly five years

(Continued on page 3)

Outbound and inbound convoys clear Hormuz after U.S.-Iranian brush

DUBAI (Agencies) — A convoy of American warships and reflagged Kuwaiti tankers sailed out of the Gulf on Monday after a serious confrontation with an Iranian warship.

Shipping sources quoted by news agencies said two more tankers and two warship escorts entered the waterway on their way to Kuwait.

Two U.S. navy warships and scrambled helicopter gunships chased off an Iranian gunboat that came too close to the convoy going out of the Gulf.

The 401,382-tonne Bridgeton, the supertanker under escort, later safely cleared the dangerous strait and entered the Gulf of Oman, as did three smaller tankers, the 81,283-tonne Sea Isle City and the 79,999-tonne Ocean City, both tankers, and the 46,723-tonne Gas King, a liquefied gas carrier.

The incident in the strait was the first significant confrontation between the U.S. and Iranian navies since the Americans began escorting Kuwaiti ships reflagged with the U.S. flag July 20 to protect them from Iranian

attacks.

The interception in the narrow Strait of Hormuz, gateway to the Gulf, came as the inbound convoy of three Kuwaiti tankers flying the American flag headed northward through the Gulf escorted by U.S. warships.

Shipping sources quoted by AP that the 290,085-tonne Middleton, the 81,283-tonne Surf City and the 79,999-tonne Chesapeake City had safely sailed through the Hormuz, past Iranian anti-ship missile emplacements, and were now steaming up the Gulf.

The U.S.-Iranian confrontation came when "an Iranian warship appeared on the scene as the convoy sailed towards the Strait of Hormuz (and) the Americans told them to stay away since they were in their path," one source quoted by Reuters said.

Two helicopter gunships flew from the Guadalcanal above the scene, but the Iranian ship turned around and sailed away.

U.S. fleet's woes in Gulf reflect basic naval defects, page 4

U.S. warship fires warning shots at dhows

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. warship fired warning machine gun blasts across the bows of two small unidentified boats in the Gulf after they ignored warnings to stay clear of a convoy of reflagged Kuwaiti tankers, the Pentagon said.

A prepared statement said the boats, known as dhows, were of "unknown nationality." The guided missile destroyer Kidd opened fire after they refused to heed verbal warnings and a flare fired as a warning in their direction.

The Pentagon said the dhows turned away from the convoy after the Kidd opened fire across their bows.

It said a U.S. support helicopter from the Kidd, one of the U.S. warships escorting Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf, observed the boats about 12 kilometres from the Kidd at about 8:45 a.m. (0445 GMT).

Family announces Hess buried in secret grave

WUNSIEDEL, West Germany (Agencies) — The family of Hitler's former deputy Rudolf Hess said Monday he had been buried in a private ceremony but they did not disclose the location of the grave.

The shock statement was read out at a news conference by the mayor of Wunsiedel, which had been preparing for a week for Hess's funeral in the family grave plot.

The funeral was originally scheduled to take place on Wednesday. Mayor Karl Walter said Hess's cousin Wieland telephoned him 50 minutes before the news conference with the information.

Mr. Walter previously had expressed the fear that burying Hess in Wunsiedel would turn the town into a pilgrimage spot for Nazi sympathisers.

"He was definitely not buried in Wunsiedel," Mr. Walter told reporters. Andrea Hess, the former Nazi leader's daughter-in-law, told AP from her home in Munich, "I can confirm that the burial of Rudolf Hess has taken place." However, she declined to say where or when.

The Hess family statement said: "It was the last will of Rudolf Hess to be buried in the cemetery at Wunsiedel in fitting circumstances with his family present."

"In view of the developments there — over which the family had no influence — we felt bound to fulfil this wish of Rudolf Hess

in the spirit of his wish. He was buried quietly."

The cemetery at Wunsiedel had been turned into a virtual fortress and the district appeared virtually under siege as hundreds of police were deployed to prevent neo-Nazi demonstrations on the day of Hess's funeral.

The ashes of top Nazis who were hanged after the Nuremberg war crimes trials in 1946 were secretly scattered to prevent their graves becoming shrines for Nazi sympathisers.

Death from 'hanging'

In West Berlin, British authorities, in a revised statement on the death of Hess, said Monday "all available evidence" indicates that the 93-year-old prisoner hanged himself.

Previously, the British authorities said only that Hess was found a week ago with "an electrical cord around his neck" in West Berlin's Spandau prison but did not say anything about a hanging.

"All available evidence — including results of a full autopsy and investigations by the special investigation branch of the Royal Military Police — indicates that Hess used an electrical extension cord to hang himself and that the cause of death was asphyxiation," the British statement said.

The statement also emphasised that the former deputy Fuehrer had left behind a suicide note.

Hess' son hospitalised, page 8

Army unit celebrates New Year

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Monday patronised a festival organised by the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division of the Armed Forces as part of Jordan's celebrations marking the Islamic New Year (Hijri), which begins today.

Athletic contests including tug-of-war and javelin and discus throws, martial arts and fencing were the highlights of the festival. A parade of Arabian horse was also held. It was organised by the Police Equestrian School.

Prince Hassan distributed prizes to winners of the contests. The celebrations were attended by Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat, the inspector-general of the Armed Forces and senior military officers.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan presents prizes to winners of athletic contests organised by the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division on Monday as part of Jordan's celebrations of the Islamic New Year which begins today (Petra photo)

King receives good wishes

AMMAN (Petra) — On the occasion of the Islamic New Year, which begins today, His Majesty King Hussein on Monday received a number of cables of good wishes.

The cables expressed hope that the new year would be an year during which the hopes and aspirations of the Arab and Muslim nations would be achieved.

The cables included those sent by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House Speaker Akaf Al Feyez, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mhelin, Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh, the directors of the Public Security, Civil Defence and General Intelligence departments.

Soviets oppose enforcement of U.N. call for ceasefire until Iranian response is clearer

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Soviet Union opposes Security Council enforcement measures in the Gulf conflict until Iran's response to a council ceasefire call becomes clearer, a senior Soviet official said Monday.

Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky said: "Iran has displayed its readiness to continue its cooperation with the secretary-general and negotiations are still going on."

"Iran's attitude deserves very serious attention," he said at a press conference he called while Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was meeting visiting Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Jawad Larjani.

Mr. Petrovsky and Mr. Larjani both came here for a U.N. conference on disarmament due to open later Monday.

The Soviet minister suggested the United States would not obtain Soviet support if it presses now for a second U.N. resolution to impose an arms embargo against Iran for failing to comply with the ceasefire demand.

"To speak of an arms embargo and further actions would be premature," Mr. Petrovsky said. Iraq has accepted the July 20 resolution on condition that Iran observes it also.

Mr. Petrovsky called his press conference following reports of a naval confrontation between Iran and the United States in the Gulf. He spoke of a disquieting situation that he said threatened to get out of control.

Renewing Moscow's demand for withdrawal of foreign navies from the Gulf, he said the U.S. presence violated the Security Council's call for restraint by all parties.

He said the Soviet Union would withdraw its six naval vessels from the Gulf if the United States withdrew its 41.

If foreign navies pulled out of the Gulf, he said, some minesweepers could remain for a limited time to secure freedom of innocent shipping through the waterway.

After Mr. Perez de Cuellar's 75-minute talk with the Iranian

minister, a U.N. spokesman said they discussed "the issue of the war in its various aspects," as well as Iran's attitude towards the Security Council ceasefire resolution.

The spokesman called the talk friendly and useful, adding it would be continued Tuesday. He said Mr. Perez de Cuellar had not authorised him to disclose any further details.

The meeting, in which the secretary general was joined by his senior aide Diego Cordovez, was Mr. Perez de Cuellar's first high-level discussions with Iran since the council resolution was unanimously adopted July 20. Iran so far has neither accepted nor rejected the ceasefire demand.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei plans to visit New York and is expected to address the U.N. General Assembly on Sept. 23, officials said.

On Sunday, Mr. Larjani indicated Iran would reject the U.N. resolution, calling the plan "very unfortunate."

But he said Iran would cooper-

ate with efforts to bring peace to the region.

In response, Richard W. Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, said he still held out hope for the U.N. resolution. "It was a negative response," Mr. Murphy said. "But once again, we did not hear Iran give us a categorical rejection of the resolution."

Mr. Larjani said: "Iran will be ready to cooperate fully with any effort which aims at bringing peace to the region." "But this resolution is a very unfortunate one, because from the minute of inception, both Iraq and the United States of America will embark on an action which really violates both the spirit and letter of the resolution."

"Iraq intensified and escalated their attacks on the ground and on the air, and the United States of America intensified its presence and brought the huge armada in the region. So I think

(Continued on page 3)

Chad minister rules out Aouzou deal with Libya

LAGOS (Agencies) — Chad's foreign minister on Monday ruled out any deal with Libya over the disputed Aouzou strip, but he supported the latest efforts by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to resolve the conflict between the two countries.

Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou reiterated N'djamena's position and as the new OAU chairman, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, began his first peace mission. Mr. Kaunda is due to meet Libya's Colonel Muammar Qadhafi later this week.

"We Chadians hope that he (Mr. Kaunda) will succeed in bringing Col. Qadhafi and his regime to their sense. We hope Qadhafi listens to him," Mr. Lassou told reporters.

The Aouzou Strip is a disputed region near the border between Libya and Chad. On Aug. 8, Chadian troops seized Aouzou, the main town in the 110,000-square-kilometre stretch of land bearing the same name, ending 14 years of Libyan control.

Mr. Lassou, who briefed the Nigerian military government on the latest clashes with Libya in

the Aouzou border area, declined to comment about his perception of Mr. Kaunda's views on the conflict.

He asserted the Chadian contention that his country inherited Aouzou at independence and it was a cardinal principle of the OAU that colonial frontiers were immutable.

"Aouzou is located 100 kilometres south of Chad's internationally-recognised frontier... we are not going to cede one inch of our territory to Libya," Mr. Lassou said.

The government of President Hissene Habre would only enter peace talks with Col. Qadhafi once Libya had accepted Chadian sovereignty over all its territory — including Aouzou, he said.

Chad said on Sunday Libyan jets bombed two border settlements and troops shot down two Libyan aircraft.

A communique from the Chadian military command said Libya bombed the town of Aouzou. It also said the town of Bardai, about 160 kilometres southwest of Aouzou, had been bombed.

Mahdi seeking to 'preserve democracy in Sudan'

KHARTOUM (R) — Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi said Saturday the breakup of Sudan's coalition on Saturday, and efforts to replace it with a broad-based government, were part of a process to safeguard the country's democracy.

"We took a different road along the same course of building the nation and safeguarding democracy," he said, quoted by Radio Omdurman, Sudan's state radio.

"It is all part of the teething pains of democracy" added Mr. Mahdi, who came to power after a 1985 coup.

The Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), at odds with Mr. Mahdi's Umma Party since the election two weeks ago of a new member to Sudan's five-member Supreme Council, the country's collective

presidency, decided to pull out of the 15-month-old coalition on Saturday.

The 24-portfolio cabinet, however, is functioning normally until a proposed national unity government is formed. Mr. Mahdi and DUP patron Mohammad Osman Al Mirghani have set Sept. 7 as the deadline for formation of a new government.

The outgoing cabinet was the first to be democratically elected in Sudan in nearly 20 years.

The crisis between the two parties began when Umma masterminded the defeat of a DUP nominee for a seat previously held by a DUP member on the Supreme Council.

The seat was won by Umma-supported Mirghani Al Nasri, a lawyer who played a pivotal role in instigating a wave of strikes

3 killed in S. African strike; mine seeks talks

WELKOM, South Africa (Agencies) — Three black workers were killed in an upsurge of violence at South Africa's strike-hit gold mines and the owners on Monday called for negotiations before more people die.

One worker was killed at the world's biggest gold mine complex near Welkom as a management ultimatum to 16,000 men to return to their jobs or be dismissed expired.

Two others died in weekend clashes between strikers and miners wanting to resume work at another mine, western areas, south of Johannesburg, the owners said.

"We call on the NUM (National Union of Mineworkers) to come back to the table before more people die," Bobby Godsell, head of industrial relations at the Anglo American mining conglomerate, told a news conference.

Anglo American, which has been worst hit by the two-week-old dispute, again refused to disclose production losses. But Mr. Godsell said: "This strike has been a very expensive affair for

us. I am very keen to bring it to an honourable end."

About 300,000 workers, campaigning for 30 per cent wage rises and other benefits, have backed the NUM's strike at half South Africa's gold and coal mines.

Mr. Godsell said there were "decisive indications of a return to work" following threats by the owners to close marginally-profitable pits and dismiss tens of thousands of men.

At the President Steyn gold mine in Welkom, black workers, some bloodstained from their wounds, alleged that guards with loudhailers woke strikers before dawn and ordered them underground.

Three previous deaths have been linked to the strike — a striker killed by security officers and two miners who authorities say may have been killed for defying the strike. The union says more than 320 strikers have been injured and 300 arrested.

Union leader exercises firm control, page 5

'preserve democracy in Sudan'

ident Al Siyassa to reveal the identity of the minister or face legal action, saying such allegations were serious and were viewed as a threat to national security.

Al Siyassa on Saturday said the minister received 500,000 pounds (\$300,000) for the information and said it would reveal his identity in a week unless he resigned or was sacked.

In Monday's edition, the newspaper called on Mr. Mahdi to set up an official committee to investigate the allegations, adding that it was prepared to hand over what it termed evidence to the body.

The newspaper on Saturday said it had a recording of a conversation between the minister and the diplomat.

Mahdi faces problems, page 4

Kuwait seeks to raise number of U.S. flagged vessels to 13

Poll shows U.S. public supports Gulf policy

KUWAIT (R) — The Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC) is negotiating with Washington to charter two tankers that would bring to 13 the number of U.S.-flagged vessels in their fleet, according to a senior company official.

But the KOTC official, Capt. Tim Stafford, described as "non-sense" a U.S. press report that Britain was considering reflagging Kuwaiti vessels.

"We are hoping to charter two vessels," Capt. Stafford said. He added that the proposed deal with the Marine Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation was "still under discussion."

The two tankers in the United States, if chartered by KOTC, would sail to Kuwait with full American crews, Capt. Stafford said.

Eight Kuwaiti tankers have been reflagged in the Gulf, and three more are due to hoist the Stars and Stripes by Sept. 5.

A report in the Washington Post Monday said that Britain was considering joining the U.S. in flagging Kuwaiti ships.

Capt. Stafford said KOTC had no contacts with the British government about reflagging

tankers. "Should we need to fly the British flag on our vessels, we can do so on a commercial basis readily available under present U.K. maritime laws," he said, adding that KOTC had no such plans at present.

Meanwhile the United States, with a new poll showing public support, has vowed to keep warships in the Gulf even though policy makers acknowledge they did not expect the task force to grow as large as it has.

A Time magazine poll released Sunday found that most Americans support the policy of having U.S. warships escort Kuwaiti oil tankers, but noted that some of those polled may have thought the oil was going to the United States when its probable destination is Western Europe or Japan.

The poll said 53 per cent of Americans approved having U.S. navy warships escort Kuwaiti oil tankers through the Gulf, while

28 per cent disapproved.

Sixty-six per cent said they believed the United States should retaliate militarily if a U.S. warship was struck by a mine, while 24 per cent did not favour retaliation.

The poll was published as the latest convoy of Kuwaiti tankers flying the American flag and their U.S. naval escort sailed down the Gulf halfway through the journey.

The U.S. military presence has escalated from fewer than 10 navy ships to an armada of more than 40 ships and 20,000 men, an increase that was not completely anticipated, according to a top State Department official.

Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, acknowledged the administration initially thought its reflagging of Kuwaiti tankers would require only a moderate increase in the U.S. military presence. He said the United States would stay as long as necessary, however.

"Our presence will remain there as long as needed," Mr. Murphy said in a U.S. television interview.

But he added: "I do not think it (the commitment) is open-ended because the war will not endure all that long."

He said there were signs of an end to the Iran-Iraq war, which has dragged on for seven years and helped draw in more U.S. warships into the Gulf.

Mr. Murphy cited the tremendous losses on both sides and more moderate statements from Tehran in recent weeks.

The United States hopes that Iran, which has sent diplomats to the United Nations this week, will announce acceptance of a U.N. ceasefire in the war.

In the latest convoy, the super-tanker Bridgeton and three other tankers were accompanied by four U.S. warships, including the amphibious assault ship and helicopter carrier USS Guadalcanal.

Regional shipping sources, however, said the 401,382-tonne Bridgeton, which hit a mine on its inward journey to Kuwait, broke away from its escorting warship, the destroyer Kidd.

One source said the ship might have taken a longer route through the central Gulf. The ship has a speed restriction and a deeper draft, the source said.

Kuwait 'will not go easy on' 17 bombers

KUWAIT (AP) — Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad has said Kuwait will not go easy on 17 convicted bombers whose release has been demanded by pro-Iranian Shiite Muslims holding American hostages in Lebanon, the Al Yakhzeh magazine reported Monday.

In an interview published in the weekly and distributed by the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), the minister affirmed that his country "will not show any leniency toward all those serving prison terms" for terrorism.

"And we shall carry out the judicial rulings issued in their connection," he was quoted as adding.

The assertions were made as the fundamentalist Islamic Jihad, or Islamic Holy War, group was reported to have renewed demands for the release of the 17 in return for freeing the hostages.

The 17 Lebanese, Iraqis and Kuwaitis were convicted in 1984 for the December 1983 car bombings of the U.S. and French embassies and four civilian targets in which five people were killed and more than 80 wounded.

Three of the 17 were sentenced to death, but the executions have not yet been carried out.

Syria executes 5 convicted bombers

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Five Syrians convicted of bombing a train and a bus station in Damascus last year were executed Monday, the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported.

It said the bombers, all men, were "executed at dawn," but did not disclose where or how the death sentences were implemented.

SANA said the two bombings, only hours apart on April 16, 1986, killed or wounded as many as 400 people. It did not give a casualty breakdown. At that time, Syrian authorities said the bombings claimed many victims, but gave no exact figures.

The five were identified as Mawaffak Abbas Shartah, Abdul Wahab Ibrahim Ismail, Ahmad, Abdul Razzak Akkum, Mohammad Hassan Saleh and Khaled Mumar Ali.

SANA did not give their ages, but all five appeared to be in their mid or late 20s when they were shown on television last year, after their arrests.

Ahmad Hassan Eid, 27, a Lebanese, was executed last year after he was found guilty of detonating a bomb-laden truck in Damascus on March 13, 1986. Several people were killed in that attack, but no official figures have been released.

Pentagon established 'secret' army after 1980 Iran incident — magazine

NEW YORK (AP) — The Pentagon set up wide-reaching clandestine units after its failed 1980 attempt to rescue American hostages from the U.S. embassy in Tehran, Time magazine reports.

The small, specially trained units are designed to operate more covertly than older paramilitary units such as the army Rangers and the navy Seals, Time said in its Aug. 31 edition.

In addition, the magazine said, a far-ranging intelligence organization known as Intelligence Support Activity (ISA) gave the army for the first time the ability to conduct full-fledged espionage using field agents.

Maj. Greg McGuckin, a Pentagon spokesman, said Sunday he had no comment on the report.

At its peak, the organization had agents in Morocco, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan and about 10 Latin American countries, the magazine said. Its personnel grew from about 50 at its inception to 283 in 1985, according to Time.

The secret army was to be used in a second hostage-rescue expedition in Tehran, code-named Honey Badger, but the plan was never executed because of inadequate intelligence, Time reported, quoting unidentified sources.

Eight Americans were killed and five wounded in the April 24, 1980, attempt to rescue the hostages held by Iran.

The ISA, in late 1981 or early 1982, worked out a deal to obtain a T-72 Soviet tank from Iraq, a

Soviet client, in return for American self-propelled artillery weapons. Time said. However, the arrangement fell through, the magazine said.

The ISA also became involved in an unauthorized plan for a 1981 raid into Laos to find Americans thought missing in action since the Vietnam war.

Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger was so incensed that he ordered the secret intelligence unit disbanded, but it survived to collect information on terrorists in Lebanon, among other activities, Time said.

"The units still exist, but their morale and our ability to use them are in shambles," an unidentified special operations officer told the magazine.

Khamenei: Iran can pulverize U.S. forces

TEHRAN (R) — Iran said Monday its forces could pulverize America's "paper tiger" forces in the Gulf in a matter of seconds if war breaks out between the two countries.

The Iranian News Agency (IRNA) quoted President Ali Khamenei as saying the United States enjoyed arms superiority over Iran with its warships, long range missiles and many other weapons.

"But the world is now well aware of the fact that Iranian forces are so powerful that they can set ablaze all these arms in a matter of seconds," Mr. Khamenei was quoted as telling a meeting of prayer leaders.

"If a war breaks out between Iran and the United States in the Gulf one day, Iran will deal shattering blows on American forces," said Mr. Khamenei, who also heads Iran's Supreme Defence

Council. He described U.S. forces in the Gulf as "paper tigers" which could be pulverized with a matchstick.

Meanwhile Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said on Tehran Radio he hoped Syria would resist pressure at an Arab League foreign ministers meeting in Tunis to withdraw support for Iran in the Gulf war.

Mr. Velayati said on the radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, that Syria's position on the war was "favourable and progressive" and that Syria had always stood by Iran.

"There has been mention of some comings and goings and certain efforts by the reactionaries in the Arab World to draw Syria away from us. Naturally, there is a great deal of pressure on Syria, because one of America's biggest aims in this war is to

call it an Arab-Persian war," Mr. Velayati said.

He added: "Up to now, Syria has resisted well. We expect her to continue resisting and not forsake her fundamental stance."

Delegates at the special Arab League ministerial meeting said its opening session Sunday was marked by a tough speech by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal who severely criticised Iran.

He called for "unanimous and practical decisions to meet the challenges and obstinacy of the Iranian regime" and accused Iran of "terrorist and destructive" behaviour towards the Islamic and Arab Worlds and particularly towards its neighbours in the Gulf.

Delegates said the new attitude of Saudi Arabia, Syria's main financial backer, could modify the attitude of Damascus which has close ties with Tehran.

U.S. officers expect to find more mines in Gulf

ABOARD THE USS GUADALCANAL IN THE GULF (AP) — Although a month has passed since the super-tanker Bridgeton hit a mine in the Gulf, U.S. officers charged with protecting reflagged Kuwaiti tankers say they don't believe they have seen the last of the explosives.

Capt. Denis Tsukalas, 46-year-old commander of the navy's helicopter mine-hunting operations based aboard this 18,000-ton carrier, said the only reason that more mines haven't been found is that the Americans haven't looked in the most likely places.

One of those, Capt. Tsukalas said, is the deep-water ship channel off Farsi Island, a small outcropping in the northern Gulf that Iran has used for speedboat and air attacks on shipping. It was in that channel that the 401,382-ton Bridgeton, the world's sixth largest tanker, hit a mine on July 24, during the first U.S. Navy-escorted convoy of Kuwaiti vessels sailing under the U.S. flag for protection from Iranian attack.

Capt. Tsukalas said it was no fluke that the mine that damaged the Bridgeton was where it was, and that it almost certainly was not the only one.

"I know there are more mines up there. The mine that hit the Bridgeton was not just a lucky shot," he told members of a Pentagon-organized news pool aboard the Guadalcanal. "And if anybody knows where they are, the Iranians do."

The Bridgeton and three other reflagged Kuwaiti tankers are now being led back down the 880-kilometre route to the Strait of Hormuz under naval escort. The group left Kuwait's Al Ahmadi oil terminal on Saturday morning.

Carrying what Kuwait officials said was a 60 per cent load of 260,000 tons of crude oil, the Bridgeton draws perhaps 15 feet (4.5 metres) less than the 75 feet (22.8 metres) it needs when fully loaded, U.S. officers say. It therefore does not need to use the deep channel where the mine danger was deemed greatest.

The convoy, the fifth overall and the second downbound since escort operations began on July 20, also includes the 81,283-ton supertanker Sea Isle City, the 79,999-ton Ocean King, and the liquefied gas carrier Gas King, 46,723 tons. Their escorts are the guided-missile destroyer Kidd and the missile frigates Klakring and Hawes.

Iran has publicly acknowledged that it has shown mines in the Gulf, saying it was to protect its own waters.

The only mine incidents reported have been in international waters or along the coast on the Arabian side of the waterway, and outside the Gulf in the Gulf of Oman.

Although the eight RH-53D Sea Stallion helicopters aboard the Guadalcanal are equipped to deal with a variety of mines types, including acoustic and magnetic, their efforts have been concentrated

on the more primitive contact-type mines because those are the only ones discovered so far in the Gulf, Capt. Tsukalas said. The model being found is of a Russian design, dating back to 1908 and used in both World Wars I and II, he said.

The mines sown in the Gulf have been of the moored type — tethered to the bottom by a cable or chain — and any found floating loose probably broke free rather than being dumped into the waters to drift, he said.

"It's by design that they weren't set to neutralise themselves if they broke loose," Capt. Tsukalas said. "These may be old but that can be done. The mine was built with that in mind."

He said the Hague Convention signed by many countries after World War I stipulates among other things that sea mines should be manufactured to render themselves harmless if they break loose from their moorings.

He said it was not known if Iran abided by that ruling.

As the Guadalcanal sailed down the Gulf on Sunday morning, its bridge officers and lookouts, posted at key vantage points, kept watch for suspicious objects in the water, and about 10 a.m. sent up a Sea Cobra helicopter gunship to check and dispose of one unidentified object sighted off the carrier's port side.

After some minutes, the gunship crew reported back that the object was some kind of floating trash. Less than an hour later, the

bridge was on high alert again as the Guadalcanal's radar detected an unknown aircraft off to the starboard and five to 10 kilometres away.

The aircraft was never visible to the naked eye in the haze hanging over the placid waters. But a 3-inch (8 cm) gun crew and the carrier's Sea Sparrow surface-to-air missile batteries were alerted and tracked the target. The alert passed without incident.

Israel sent arms to Ugandan rebels

KAMPALA (AFP) — A Ugandan rebel group last June received arms and military uniforms from Israel "with the help and blessing of President Moi's government" in neighbouring Kenya, The Weekly Topic newspaper claimed in its latest edition here.

The newspaper said the arms were sent to Peter Otai, Uganda's former defence minister under ousted president Milton Obote.

Otai now leads the Uganda People's Front, which he formed earlier this year in Nairobi. The Weekly Topic said the rebels had planned to attack Soroti airport in eastern Uganda. The supplies would originate from "certain powerful elements in the U.S., Britain, Israel, Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia and Zaire," the newspaper claimed.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77111-19	
15:30	Koran
15:50	Programme review
16:55	Cartoons and children's programmes
16:50	Mobile Camera
17:30	Different Stripes
18:00	Religious programme
18:30	Soccer
19:20	Local programme
19:50	Programme review and variety
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic Series
21:00	Programme on Architecture
22:20	Variety
23:00	News summary in Arabic
23:10	Close down
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Andre Malraux
19:00	News in French
19:15	Les animaux du Monde
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Variety
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Special programme: The Muslim Conquest
21:10	Ohara (detective series)
22:00	News in English
22:20	The Unknown War
RADIO JORDAN	
885 KHz. AM & 90 MHz. FM & path on 960 KHz. SW	
Tel: 77111-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	News
08:00	Morning Show
09:00	News Summary
10:00	Just a Minute
11:00	Follow the Wind
12:00	News Summary
12:45	30 Minute Theatre
13:00	News Summary
13:05	Pop Session Contd.
14:00	News Bulletin
14:15	Instrumentals
14:30	Pop Talk
15:00	News Summary
16:00	News Summary
16:05	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	Science Report
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:05	Top Twenty
18:30	Music
19:00	News Desk
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:05	Evening Show Contd.
22:00	News Summary
22:05	Evening Show Continued

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
* An exhibition of plastic art by Mohammad Ali Keswani at the Housing Bank Gallery (until Sept. 15).	
* An exhibition of photographs by Munir Ali Asl at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation (until August 25).	
* An art exhibition by Mohammad Polak and Munir Ali Tunisiyyah at the Plaza Hotel.	
* An exhibition entitled "Romania Today" at Amman Hotel.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre — Tel. 6610267	
American Centre — Tel. 661520	
British Council — Tel. 661478	
Goethe Institute — Tel. 661903	
Spanish Cultural Centre — Tel. 662023	
Jordanian Cultural Centre — Tel. 662049	
Turkish Cultural Centre — Tel. 662777	
Hussain Youth City — Tel. 661910	
Y.W.C.A. — Tel. 661793	
Jordanian Municipal Library — Tel. 661711	
Univ. of Jordan Library — Tel. 843555	
MUSEUMS	
* "Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651791.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 5320-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
06:45	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
07:30	Moscow (add. 10 min.)
08:15	Bucharest (RJ)
09:15	Cairo (RJ)
10:30	Kuwait (RJ)
10:40	Jeddah (RJ)
10:55	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:30	Agaba (RJ)
12:30	Cairo (RJ)
18:35	New York, Vienna (RJ)
19:00	Paris, Brussels (RJ)
19:05	Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:15	Istanbul (RJ)
20:40	Baghdad (RJ)
21:15	Tripoli (RJ)
21:30	Rome (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
13:30	Cairo (MS)
13:30	Moscow (SU)
13:30	Muscat, Doha (GF)
14:35	Kuwait (KU)
15:00	Riyadh (SV)
15:15	Kuwait (add. 10 min.)
20:00	Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
20:10	Rome (AZ)
20:25	Kuwait (add. 10 min.)
23:30	Baghdad (IA)
06:45	London, Cairo (BA)
DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
09:15	Agaba (RJ)
11:45	Tripoli (RJ)
11:45	Rome (RJ)
12:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
13:00	Belgrade, London (RJ)
13:15	Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
13:30	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
13:45	Istanbul (RJ)
14:00	Larnaca (RJ)
20:35	Kuwait (RJ)
20:40	Dhahran (RJ)
20:50	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:15	Cairo (RJ)
22:15	Damascus (RJ)
22:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
23:00	Bangkok (RJ)
MONEY EXCHANGE	
Local sell/buy rates in J.O.D.	
Belgian franc	89.6/90.7
Dutch guilder	165.1/167.3
French franc	55.7/56.4
Italian lire	25.7/26
Japanese yen (for 100)	236.9/241.1
Swedish krona	53.1/53.8
Swiss franc	225.2/228.6
U.K. sterling pound	552.2/559.1
U.S. dollar	339.6/343
W. German mark	186.1/188.6
PRAYER TIMES	
06:44	Fajr
07:07	Dhuhr (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:38	Dhuhr
16:14	Asr
19:09	Maghrib
20:31	Isha
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be fair. Some scattered low clouds will appear in the morning and the winds will be northeasterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be easterly moderate and calm sea.	
Min./max. temp.	
Amman	17/31
Agaba	23/38
Deserts	18/34
Jordan Valley	25/35
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30.5, Agaba 37.5. Humidity readings: Amman 32 per cent. Agaba 26 per cent.	

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES	
Amman governorate	891228
Amman Civil Defence	198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid	271253, 272151
Civil Defence Qawwash	707273
Civil Defence Deir Alla	57306
Ambulance	193, 7751

Iraqi industry minister meets with Muasher

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian-Iraqi Industries Company (JIIIC) achievements and projects were reviewed during a meeting of the company's general assembly held Monday in the presence of Minister of Supply, Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher and Iraqi Minister of Industry Hatem Abdul Rashid, who arrived here earlier Monday.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the possibility of setting up new company-owned industries to enhance cooperation between Jordan and Iraq.

In an arrival statement, Mr. Abdul Rashid praised Jordan's pan-Arab efforts, and referred in particular to Jordan's unique and original stand towards Iraq.

In an arrival statement Monday, Mr. Abdul Rashid said his visit to Jordan is aimed at study-

ing the situation of the Jordanian-Iraqi Industries Company and expressed the hope that industrial cooperation and integration between Iraq and Jordan be expanded.

Mr. Abdul Rashid, who is on a three-day official visit to Jordan, added that he will review the company's projects to set up new strategic industries, which will not only benefit Jordan and Iraq, but also the whole Arab region.

The minister is accompanied on the visit by the Iraqi Ministry of Industry's under secretary, Usama Abdul Razzaq, and senior officials from the JIIIC.

Mr. Abdul Rashid and the accompanying delegation were received upon arrival at the airport by Dr. Muasher and Under Secretary Mohammad Al Saqqaf, and senior Iraqi embassy officials.



The Jordanian-Iraqi Industries Company holds its general assembly meeting Monday. In attendance is the visiting Iraqi Minister of Industry Hatem Abdul Rashid and Minister of Supply, Industry, and Trade Rajai Muasher (Petra photo).

Arab anti-narcotics panel adopts Jordanian plan

TUNIS (Petra) — The fourth pan-Arab conference on narcotics control concluded here Sunday after adopting a Jordanian proposal calling for the establishment of a joint Arab fund, to be based in the Arab Interior Ministers Council's secretariat.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Col. Hashem Al Qaisi, director of

Jordan's Narcotics and Forgery Control Department, said the conference had recommended the approval of a Jordanian proposal for the formation of a mobile investigation team within the council's secretariat. The team will be entrusted with following up on the investigations of narcotics cases whenever the need arises, and at the request of the concerned country.

Saudi ambassador praises King's efforts to promote Arab solidarity

AMMAN (Petra) — Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Jordan, Mohammad Al Fahd Al Issa, voiced his country's appreciation Monday for the efforts of His Majesty King Hussein to achieve solidarity among Arab states. He also expressed support for Jordan's endeavours on the pan-Arab level which, he said, are in

conformity, with national, Arab, and Islamic commitments.

The ambassador was speaking at a meeting with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Nabih Al Nimer with whom he reviewed Arab affairs, particularly the situation in the Gulf. Jordan News Agency, Petra,

said that the two sides reviewed the Iranian threats to the Arab states in the Gulf region and the ongoing Arab foreign ministers meeting in Tunis being held to discuss the situation in the Gulf conflict, especially the implementation of the U.N. Security Council resolution to end the war.

W. German minister to finalise ACC aid accord

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — West German Economic Cooperation Minister Hans Klein will start a five-day official visit to Jordan Sunday on a mission expected to further enhance existing relations.

During his stay, Mr. Klein, and a high-level accompanying delegation, will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials, including Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, and Planning Minister Taher Kasas.

It was not confirmed on Monday whether Mr. Klein will be received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

According to Carola Muller, first secretary at the West German embassy in Amman, Mr. Klein's visit aims at "getting first-hand information" on Jordan's socio-economic development, and on the progress of the numerous joint Jordanian-West German development projects.

He is expected to tour the Royal Scientific Society (RSS),

the Aqaba thermal power station and the port of Aqaba, the Schneller refugee camp, and a number of Jordan's tourist and historical sites.

The minister's visit follows a recently reported West German pledge to extend 70 million Deutsch marks (\$39 million) in soft loans to Jordan for the next two years. The loans, 4.5 per cent interest, would have a 20-year maturity with a five-year grace period, under a technical and financial agreement signed by Jordan and West Germany this June.

Under the accord, \$19 million would go to a sewerage project in northern Jordan, \$4 million to the Agricultural Credit Corporation, the Industrial Development Bank would receive \$5.5 million, and phase three of a feasibility study on oil shale production in Lujjoun, in southern Jordan, would get \$4 million.

In addition, Mrs. Muller told the Jordan Times that the agreement to provide \$5.5 million for the Agricultural Credit Corporation, as specified in the June accord, will be finalised by the

minister and the organisation during his stay in Jordan.

Mr. Klein is accompanied by officials from his ministry, the Foreign Affairs Ministry, and 19 journalists.

The newly-appointed federal minister, a Christian Democrat, during the period 1959-1965, served as press attaché at his country's embassies in Jordan, Syria, Iraq, and Indonesia.

An economist and historian by education, Mr. Klein became a member of the federal parliament in 1976. In addition, he has held several key positions in his country, such as press relations chief for the 1972 Summer Olympic Games held in Munich, and foreign policy spokesman for the Christian Democratic Party (CDU) and its allied Bavarian party, the Christian Social Union (CSU), from 1982-1987.

After the United States, West Germany is the second largest non-Arab provider of foreign economic assistance to Jordan, according to official reports available to the Jordan Times. This, however, does not include German contributions made to Jordan through other regional and international organisations, such as the European Community (EC), the World Bank, the World Health Organisation (WHO), and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

West Germany has maintained the same level of technical assistance and financial aid to Jordan as in the previous two-year programme. This stable West German assistance to Jordan reflects earlier statements made by a number of the republic's officials.

In an interview with the Jordan Times last year, Gunter Bonnet, who was then in charge of Jordanian, Syrian, and Lebanese economic affairs at the federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation, said his country does not contemplate any future reductions in its technical and financial aid programme for Jordan.

"Although we believe that Jordan has reached a well developed socio-economic level in comparison with other developing countries, West Germany will continue to help the Kingdom carry out its various development projects," said Dr. Bonnet.

Soviets see enforcement of U.N. ceasefire call as premature

(Continued from page 1)

this resolution from the day of inception was in trouble."

Mr. Murphy said Mr. Larjani's talks with Mr. Perez de Cuellar were a critical one in determining whether Iran accepts or rejects the resolution. Nevertheless, the United States supports a second U.N. resolution imposing an arms embargo on Iran, he said.

"We think that the time has come for work on a second resolution which would give teeth to the original resolution of July 20," Mr. Murphy said. "We are discussing it within the Security Council right now. I think there are prospects... for agreement. Exactly when they can be achieved, we will see. But I think there are good prospects."

The comments by Mr. Murphy and Mr. Larjani were made in a second version of NBC-TV's "Meet the Press" programme. In an earlier show, the network interviewed Mr. Murphy, but not Mr. Larjani, due to technical problems.

In the first programme, Mr. Murphy said that while the United States is maintaining its military presence in the Gulf, with its escorts of Kuwait oil tankers, it is pursuing its diplomatic option.

"On the political, diplomatic side, we are going full bore at the United Nations, in the Security Council, to get a comprehensive ceasefire," Mr. Murphy said.

The assistant secretary said the United States would welcome a meeting with Mr. Larjani, but said the administration was not presently pursuing that possibility.

In the second programme, Mr. Larjani said he would accept a meeting as common courtesy, but did not see any reason to meet with U.S. officials to discuss a ceasefire.

In the initial show, Mr. Murphy said that although the United States favours a ceasefire in the war, the administration would work to contain the Iranian regime and its revolution the way it sought after World War II to contain the Soviet Union.

"We do not believe the Iranian revolution should be imposed on its neighbours, most of whom are Arab-Sunni neighbours," Mr.

Murphy said.

Mr. Murphy said the administration was "very satisfied" with the support it has received from the Arab states. However, he would not comment on a published report that Saudi Arabia had agreed to let carrier-based U.S. combat planes in the Gulf land in Saudi territory for refuelling and other logistical support. Saudi Arabia denied the report on Sunday.

In another development, Mr. Murphy confirmed that Ambassador William Eagleton was to return to his post in Syria. The Associated Press reported last week that President Reagan had decided to send Mr. Eagleton back to Damascus around Sept. 1.

But Mr. Murphy said Mr. Eagleton's return was not in response to the release last week of American hostage Charles Glass. "Ambassador Eagleton's return to Damascus is not related to the hostage release, to the release of Charlie Glass or any other aspect of hostage detention in Lebanon," he said. "His return is a further acknowledgement of the Syrian efforts over the past year to contain terrorism."

In the second programme, Mr. Larjani said Iran would offer "humanitarian help" to free the hostages, but called for negotiations on the release of the American hostages and prisoners held in Israel and Kuwait.

Mr. Murphy said he saw no basis for a deal to free the hostages.

Following his talks with Mr. Perez de Cuellar on Monday, Mr. Larjani said his government looks for a positive result from the ceasefire resolution.

Mr. Larjani conferred also with the president of the council, Hans Lautenschlager of West Germany.

Neither the United Nations nor the Iranians would disclose details of the conversation.

Mr. Larjani told reporters: "We hope that something positive can be cooked out of this resolution."

"Iran is ready and it is its duty and its right and in its interest to work towards a comprehensive settlement of the conflict and peace and stability in the area,"

Mr. Larjani said.

"We will cooperate with any authentic move that aims at peace and security in the whole region positively, concretely, and honestly."

He said there was a standing invitation to Mr. Perez de Cuellar to visit Tehran for talks and he was free to raise whatever question he wished. The timing for a visit was up to the secretary-general, he said.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar has said he will go only if he has assurances of a positive outcome.

Mr. Larjani said the U.S. policy of escorting Kuwaiti tankers put under the protection of the American flag attacked in a controversial congressional report released on Saturday.

The report, released by the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, said the policy was designed chiefly to check an expansion of Soviet influence in the Gulf.

All 17 Republican members of the committee objected to the report and Oakley said it was an over-simplification.

She said preventing an expansion of Soviet influence was only one of four main elements of a policy that also included ensuring the free-flow of oil through a waterway vital to the West, helping friendly states defend themselves against Iranian threats and checking possible expansion of the war.

"To single out any one as the sole rationale of our policy is an over-simplification of the policy-making process," she said.

"Such a conclusion that we have had a knee-jerk reaction is misleading. We have a comprehensive, coherent Gulf policy,"

State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley told reporters Washington hoped Mr. Lar-

jani would deliver an acceptance in talks with Mr. Perez de Cuellar on Monday and Tuesday.

But she appeared pessimistic. "We have not seen, in what they have said, any indication that they are going to be responsive," she said.

"If Iran continues to stall, we believe the (U.N.) Security Council must move ahead to consider enforcement measures," she said.

"It is increasingly clear that further U.N. action will be necessary."

Oakley also defended the U.S. policy of escorting Kuwaiti tankers put under the protection of the American flag attacked in a controversial congressional report released on Saturday.

The report, released by the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, said the policy was designed chiefly to check an expansion of Soviet influence in the Gulf.

All 17 Republican members of the committee objected to the report and Oakley said it was an over-simplification.

She said preventing an expansion of Soviet influence was only one of four main elements of a policy that also included ensuring the free-flow of oil through a waterway vital to the West, helping friendly states defend themselves against Iranian threats and checking possible expansion of the war.

"To single out any one as the sole rationale of our policy is an over-simplification of the policy-making process," she said.

"Such a conclusion that we have had a knee-jerk reaction is misleading. We have a comprehensive, coherent Gulf policy,"

Arab League continues talks

(Continued from page 1)

because of inter-Arab disputes.

Algeria, which has good relations with both Tehran and Baghdad, proposed fresh mediation to settle the conflict. Several Algerian mediation efforts have failed in the past.

Delegates said Syria, a close friend of Iran and rival of Iraq,

was inclined to side with Algeria because it was under strong pressure from Saudi Arabia to be firm with Iran.

They said Saudi Arabia and others sought to reactivate the 1950 Arab Mutual Defence Pact, which considers any aggression against an Arab country as an aggression against all Arab countries.

Doctors perform Jordan's 1st balloon heart valve operation

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanian heart patients suffering a constriction of the aortic valve may soon be able to go through a simple procedure to enlarge the valve, and avoid complicated heart surgery.

The method, called "balloon valvuloplasty," involves inserting a guide wire through the brachial artery in the arm, into the narrowed heart valve and then into the left ventricle. A balloon catheter is then inserted over the guide wire into the valve. Then, the balloon catheter is inflated for 20 seconds.

According to Dr. Harrah Zureikat, the heart specialist who performed this procedure for the first time in Jordan Sunday, "the balloon then penetrates the leaflets of the aortic valve and opens it."

At the end of this procedure, another catheter is introduced to measure the blood pressure in the left ventricle and aorta, "and if there is a significant reduction, then this indicates success," he said.

Dr. Zureikat and a specialised medical team performed the operation on Mohammad Faraj Al Salaimah, 40, who had been suffering from severe narrowing of the aortic valve for six months, which resulted in complication

for his lungs and liver.

"As Mr. Salaimah's health deteriorated, surgery was ruled out. We had to look for another procedure to save his life," Dr. Zureikat said in an interview with the Jordan Times Monday. He also said that the whole procedure took only one hour and was successful. The patient was discharged Monday.

Dr. Zureikat performed the procedure at Al Khalidi Hospital with a medical team composed of Dr. Suhail Saleh, heart surgeon, Dr. Natasha Al Naber, heart specialist, Dr. Mahmoud Keilani, and a team of technicians, headed by Mr. Ibrahim Olayan.

"The method was discovered about two years ago. So far it is only available in very few specialised centres around the world," the surgeon said. He added that the "result is immediately known, but so far, we do not know the long-term effects of the operation."

There are two types of patients on whom this operation can be performed so far. "It has only been performed on two types of patients, the very old, who would be unable to undergo major surgery and some younger pa-

tients, whose left ventricle, which is considered to be the main pumping instrument in the heart, is severely diseased," he said.

Dr. Zureikat added that "the procedure could also be performed on very small children, whom, if they underwent surgery to replace the valve, would soon outgrow it."

The doctor estimates the mortality risk at 5 per cent and the chance of very good results at 50 per cent, the chance of moderate results at 25 per cent, and the chance of poor results at 25 per cent. "In this last category the valve simply doesn't open," he said.

Dr. Zureikat added that, although the operation is not very widely used and is "not developing very fast, because the long-term results are not yet known, there is still the possibility that in the next few years the method will be more widely known and used on all types of patients."

Three patients who underwent heart transplants at the Queen Alia Heart Institute last month left the institute Monday, after doctors said they could lead normal lives. The recovery of the three patients, Hussein Abbadi, 31, Sabri Elayyan, 40, and Iliham Yousef, 25, raises to seven the number of the people who have successfully undergone heart transplant operations at the institute. The first heart transplant operation was performed in Jordan in Aug. 1985.

Arab Doctors Federation closes planning session

AMMAN (Petra) — Hassan Khreis, secretary-general of the Arab Doctors Federation (ADF), has returned to Amman after taking part in the ADF's general secretariat meeting in Damascus, which ended Sunday evening.

In a statement made upon his return, Dr. Khreis said that the meeting focused on making arrangements for holding a general Arab medical conference in Cairo early next year, and the agenda of subjects to be discussed there. These subjects include primary health care, infectious and endemic diseases in the Arab World, and modern trends in surgery.

Several medical seminars will take place during the conference, Dr. Khreis pointed out. He said

that these seminars will tackle the health situation in the Israeli-held Arab territories, health schemes in force in the Arab World, and the prospect of arabisising medical books for university students.

The secretariat meeting discussed the administrative and financial matters of the federation, and the ADF's secretariat meeting in Tunis next month.

Before leaving Damascus, Dr. Khreis held a meeting with the president of the Syrian Medical Association to discuss developing cooperation between the Jordanian and Syrian medical associations. The president of the Jordanian Medical Association, Dr. Mamdouh Al Abbadi, accompanied Dr. Khreis to the meeting.



MINISTER OPENS MOSQUE: Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat inaugurates a new mosque set up by Hajj Mahmoud Al Himsi in Al Muhajireen area, downtown Amman. Attending the inauguration ceremony were Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, a number of senators and deputies, and Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Under Secretary Abdul Salam Al Abbadi (Petra photo).

Islamic cities' group to review summit decisions

IRBID (Petra) — A three-day meeting of the Islamic Capitals Organisation's administrative council will begin in Irbid Saturday, according to Irbid Mayor Abdul Razzak Tubeishat.

He said that delegates from 12 Islamic cities will discuss the organisation's activities and plans for the coming year.

The meeting, which is being held at the invitation of Irbid

Municipality, will also review a decision by the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference to establish cooperation between Arab Jerusalem and Islamic capitals, Dr. Tubeishat said.

The meeting will be attended by delegates representing the cities of Riyadh, Mecca, Medina, Cairo, Tunis, Rabat, Baghdad, Jerusalem, Istanbul, Ankara, and Bamako, in addition to Amman.

Arab boycott bureau ends meetings in Damascus

AMMAN (Petra) — Mohammad Tawalbeh, assistant director of the Customs Department, returned to Amman from Damascus Sunday evening, after participating in a meeting of the Arab Bureau for Boycotting Israel (ABBI) in Damascus.

The meeting of ABBI's representatives from Arab countries passed a number of recommendations, including one calling for the establishment of an Arab-European chamber of commerce to confront the activities of the Israeli-European Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Tawalbeh said.

He said that the meeting urged all Arab states to abide by ABBI resolutions, and requested that all Arab states open ABBI offices in their capitals.

Information committee to discuss Arab media issues

TUNIS (Petra) — The Arab Information Standing Committee, an Arab League affiliate, began its 43rd session here Monday. They will discuss issues pertaining to pan-Arab information coordination, including the role of the Arabat in relaying cultural information, news and television programmes. The committee will also discuss the role of Arab information networks in the international arena.

Also on the session's agenda are subjects related to holding mobile exhibitions and the trans-

mission of cultural programmes through Arab satellites. These satellites are designed to expose other countries to Arab culture, and to brief them on the condition of Arab-international friendship societies.

High on the meeting's agenda for discussion are the condition of information institutions in the occupied Arab territories and means for supporting them.

Jordan's delegation to the meeting is headed by Director General of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Ali Safadi.

Council completes centres

AL JIZEH (Petra) — The World Council of Churches has completed the construction of two community and service centres at Al Talbikh Palestinian refugee camp, south of Amman.

An announcement stated that one of the two centres will be used to help revive national heritage through training courses on traditional art. The other will offer care to mothers,

NEWS IN BRIEF

Coffee prices lowered

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Supply, Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher issued Monday a defence order lowering the prices of roasted and ground coffee by 30 fils per 250 grammes. According to the defence order, the 250 grammes of lightly roasted and ground coffee with cardamom will be sold at 500 fils; the semi-black coffee will be sold at 530 fils; and black coffee will be sold at 550 fils. The defence order, which will take effect Wednesday, stipulated that roasted and ground coffee should be free from any impurities and that it should be made from green coffee beans.

GUVS head reviews projects in Ma'an

MA'AN (Petra) — President of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) Abdullah Al Khatib presided Monday over a meeting of the GUVS administrative committee in Ma'an Governorate and reviewed with the committee members the existing and future projects in the governorate. Dr. Khatib also patronised the graduation of kindergarten teachers in the governorate, who enrolled in a five-day course organised by the GUVS' social studies and research centre. Participants received training in computers and basic educational concepts.

Zarqa Governorate development reviewed

ZARQA (Petra) — A U.N. regional planning expert currently working for the Planning Ministry met in Zarqa Monday with the mayors of Zarqa, Al Hashemiyyeh, Al Sukhneh and Ruseifa. During the meeting, they reviewed development projects of the municipalities in Zarqa over the past year. They also discussed problems facing these municipalities such as shortage of resources, continuing population growth, and pollution in the Zarqa River from neighbouring factories. The meeting also reviewed JD 9 million worth of projects included in the municipalities' plans for the next three years.

Jordan to attend Arab council meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to take part in the meetings of the Arab Economic and Social Council, which will be held in Tunisia Sept. 1. During the meetings, the council will discuss several topics dealing with Arab trade, and specialised Arab organisations. The council will also discuss the latest economic developments in the Arab World and Arab presence at international organisations. Ministry of Supply, Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher will head Jordan's delegations to these meetings.

Stamps to be issued for university jubilee

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications announced recently that it is issuing commemorative stamps to mark the University of Jordan's silver jubilee. A statement said that the stamps of 60 and 80 fils denominations will be in circulation at all post offices as of Wednesday, Sept. 2, which marks the beginning of the jubilee celebrations at the university. The statement explained that the stamps serve as an expression of the deep appreciation of Jordanians for the role played by the university over the past 25 years in bettering economic and social life in the Kingdom by producing trained, skilful Jordanians.

Jordan to attend Islamic economic panel

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the meetings of the standing committee charged with supervising economic cooperation among Islamic countries. The meeting, due to begin in Istanbul Sept. 7, will be attended by Dr. Taher Kanaan, minister of planning.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Mahdi faces problems in forming broad government

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuters

KHARTOUM — Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi will have a hard time forming a broad-based government in Sudan to replace a 15-month-old coalition which collapsed on Saturday, Western diplomats said Sunday.

They said Mahdi's main problem was accommodating the militant National Islamic Front (NIF) party in a new cabinet without loosening the grip of his Umma Party and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) on key cabinet posts.

Umma and the DUP, main partners in the outgoing coalition, have 101 and 62 respectively of parliament's 301 seats. The NIF, led by Hassan Al Tourabi, has 53 seats.

In the outgoing cabinet, Umma

and the DUP had 17 of the 24 portfolios, leaving three to small south Sudanese parties and four vacant.

Mahdi, the diplomats said, would first have to persuade his own party to include the NIF in the cabinet.

His previous attempts to enter a partnership with NIF ran into stiff opposition from Umma lawmakers on the grounds that Tourabi was a close aide of President Jaafar Numeiri, ousted in a 1985 military coup.

The DUP pulled out of the coalition on Saturday although Mahdi said he and DUP leader Mohammad Osman Al Mirghani had agreed to form a new government by Sept. 7.

The collapse of the government followed the Umma-engineered election of lawyer Mirghani Al Nasri to a seat on the Supreme

Council, the five-member collective head of state, previously held by a DUP member.

Tourabi, a French-educated former law lecturer, has said his party's conditions for entering a national unity government included the formulation of a charter setting out policies binding on all participants.

He has rejected proposals that all political parties should be represented in a new government, saying such an arrangement was not feasible.

"If the government now seems to be destined to fall once every year, then it will collapse every day if all parties participate," Tourabi told a news conference earlier this month.

Even if Tourabi's views were heeded, Mahdi would still have a difficult task putting together a cabinet in which only parties rep-

resented in parliament were included, the diplomats said.

Polling in 40 south Sudanese constituencies had been indefinitely postponed because of fighting there between rebels and government troops.

South Sudanese lawmakers oppose Mahdi's plans to introduce two penal codes, one applying to Sudan's Muslim majority and the other to the animist and Christian people of south Sudan.

They want a now-defunct secular penal code introduced in 1974 to be reinstated, but Mahdi rejects their demand.

Some south Sudanese parties oppose Tourabi's participation in a new government on the grounds that he was the main driving force behind the 1983 introduction of Sharia.

The laws, now largely relaxed,

fuelled the insurgency in the south. An estimated 400 people, including non-Muslims, lost hands or feet for theft and hundreds were flogged for drinking alcohol.

The south Sudanese parties also accuse Mahdi's government of arming tribes claiming Arab origin to fight the rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) on behalf of the government.

Mahdi denies that his government armed the tribes but has implicitly defended their activity by saying they were fending off rebel attacks in remote areas unreachable by troops.

A top Umma party official told Reuters that there was still a good chance that Umma and the DUP would renew their partnership in a new coalition.

The DUP's withdrawal from



the government, he said, might have been designed to pacify party members infuriated by the defeat of the DUP nominee for the Supreme Council seat.

Precursor to summit?

ARAB foreign ministers are currently meeting in Tunis to discuss the situation in the Gulf. They are not doing so for the first time, nor is their meeting likely to be the last. However, there have been some very important developments since the Arab League last met on the subject of the Gulf war, and we expect the gathering to rise to the challenge of these developments.

The news from Tunis is that the ministers are expected to adopt "a hard line" against Iran but without going as far as recommending that Arab ties with Tehran be totally severed. The Arab delegates, we hear, are divided on a policy with "radicals" favouring a moderate stand and "the moderates" taking a tough line.

Reading the reports from Tunis, it appears that the strongest measure the Arab meeting is likely to adopt is to urge the United Nations to apply sanctions against Tehran for ignoring the Security Council's appeal as contained in Resolution 598 for an immediate ceasefire which Iraq has accepted. But even then, there are no guarantees of action by the United Nations and its member states.

Back to square one? We really do not know. But reality suggests we are not likely to be.

Ever since the beginning of the Iran-Iraq war, Arab states, along with the international community, have been rebuffed time and again by Tehran's refusal to respond to diplomatic overtures. And those, like the Americans, who waged on diplomacy with the Khomenei regime (though secretly) to improve bilateral relations and safeguard their interests through so-called Iranian moderates, are still paying the price of their short-sightedness. France has been yet another recent victim of diplomacy with Iran. Paris severed ties with Tehran after refusing that diplomacy with the Khomenei regime was a pipe dream that should not be pursued. This is not to mention the failure of Arab and international mediation efforts to end the war.

The rulers of Iran seem to have one only consideration when dealing with the rest of the world: The consideration of power towards the success of the revolution. Come what may, the Iranians are determined to dominate the Gulf region, even if it takes buying weapons from America, the "great satan" or even Israel, the smaller devil.

The Iranians will not bend to diplomacy. Their aim remains that of exporting the revolution to the whole region, if not the world. They have been fighting a bloody war for seven years towards that goal and responding to diplomatic niceties is the last thing on their mind. In the meantime, if the Arab ministers meeting in Tunis fails to take practical steps to respond to the major danger, the meeting threatens to become a further confirmation of Arab paralysis. Between the so-called Arab moderates and radicals, and between those who realise the gravity and dimensions of the Iranian threat and those who think they will be spared the raging fires of the Gulf, Iran will be scoring a political victory that it badly needs to continue its war against the Arabs. The Arab foreign ministers have a great challenge to meet. If they cannot agree among themselves on what should be done to stem the Iranian threat, the least they could do is to recommend that their leaders take up the challenge. The Tunis meeting would do well to be a precursor to the long-awaited 13th Arab summit.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Painful realities

HIS Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's statements in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo places us face to face with painful realities which cannot be ignored or overlooked. Prince Hassan pointed to important and serious situations which should be handled before it is too late and before it becomes impossible for us to deal with the situation in the Gulf region. Prince Hassan spoke about the dangerous attempts by the major world powers against the Arab region in the Gulf and against the Arab Nation's interests there. These powers want to protect their own rights and their interests at the expense of the Arab Nation's interests and they continue to impose their hegemony on the Arabs under any pretexts and excuses. The U.S. and Western military interference in the Gulf cannot be taking place for the sake of protecting the Arab Nation's interests nor do we believe that the presence of naval forces will lead to an end to the Gulf conflict. The major powers are in the Gulf to protect their own interests and are there to deal with side effects of the Gulf conflict which and not the war itself. Prince Hassan wondered about the role of the Arab states bordering the Red Sea in the face of Israel's plots against the Arab and Islamic identity and also referred to the Western powers' ill-behaviour towards the Arabs and Islamic nations which in the past contributed to the progress and prosperity of the West.

Al Dustour: Test for Arab will

THE Arab League Council opened a meeting at the foreign-ministers level in Tunis to discuss the current Arab situation and the ongoing Gulf conflict. This meeting, which was called by Tunisia to handle the fast moving developments and events in our Arab region, will serve as a real test for the sincerity and the capability of the Arab countries in confronting challenges and in showing cohesion in the face of common dangers. The meeting will show clearly whether the Arab states are really interested in honouring their national commitments and helping one another in the face of an external threat like the Iranian aggression on Iraq. This meeting at the Arab League in Tunis should be considered as one of the most crucial meetings and as a real turning point in joint Arab action which was lacking over the past years. The very critical conditions through which the Arab Nation is passing, and the events in the Gulf add to the importance of the Tunis meeting which should find a way out of the present dilemma and the danger that threatens all Arabs. We hope that the Arab League will arrive at a definite solution that can help end the Iran-Iraq war and we also hope that a joint Arab stand will be effective in this direction and in achieving an end to bloodshed.

Sawt Al Shaab: Hopes in Tunis meeting

THE Arab foreign ministers have opened an extraordinary meeting in Tunis to deal with the ongoing Gulf war and the other hot issues of our region which has become a scene for violence threatening the future of the Arab Nation. The ministers meet amid a complicated situation in the Gulf and against a background of dangers and threats to the Arab Nation as a whole. The ministers should benefit from the convenient and brotherly atmosphere at the Arab League in Tunis and embark on serious endeavours to unify Arab countries' position and end the conflict. These ministers can and should pave the way for an Arab summit at which their leaders can and must reach consensus in view of the serious situation in the Arab region and the chronic problems plaguing the Arab people. This is a national duty for the ministers in Tunis and their work is among the priorities for the Arab World. The Arab masses look with hope towards this meeting which comes amidst a gloomy horizon and looming dangers. It can help find solutions for Arab problems and can help the Arab Nation to end its long sufferings.

Reza Pahlavi emerges from shadows to renew claim to peacock throne

By Elaine Ganley
The Associated Press

PARIS — Eight years after the Iranian revolution, the son of the toppled shah of Iran is renewing his claim to the peacock throne and calling publicly for restoration of the Pahlavi dynasty.

"I know in my heart that they want me," Reza Pahlavi said in an interview, "but I'm not going to claim to you today that the people will say that."

For many Iranians, Pahlavi is only a remembrance, often bitter, of things past. For practical purposes, he is a king without a throne or a country. Yet he dreams of restoring family rule, with himself as a constitutional monarch.

After his father died in exile in 1980, Pahlavi proclaimed himself Shah Reza II. Then he retreated into silence. Now, at 26, he is making what amounts to a political coming-out, conceding certain excesses by his father, Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and trying to place himself in the front line of the struggle against Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic republic.

"My goal is to free Iran from the rule of terrorists which have taken our country hostage," he said in the interview Friday. "My dream is that my country be freed as soon as possible from this nightmare."

"The question that remains is when to launch the final move against the regime."

His words echo those of a half-dozen opposition leaders in exile, including leftists and several monarchists of widely differing views. All claim popular support inside Iran and the military backing to make it meaningful.

But until a recent series of appearances in Paris, the nerve centre of Iran's exiled opposition, Pahlavi has remained in the shadows, living in the United States.

With his boyish air and his bevy of advisers, he appears articulate, eager in English and French.

Faust to talk but evasive on sensitive issues, he clearly has been groomed for his debut as an active opposition leader.

Pahlavi says he has both civilian and military "resistance" cells working to restore the throne his father ruled for 37 years.

He says he meets occasionally with members of the Iranian clergy and Khomeini's Revolutionary Guards, who, he claims, are looking for assurances they would be safe if he came to power. Like some other opposition leaders, he has a radio station beaming messages into Iran.

"Part of the nature of the game is to deal in absolute secrecy," he said when asked to elaborate on his forces. "Our major operational and tactical networks can't be exposed until the final moment."

The young Pahlavi, in contrast to his once all-powerful father, stressed his wish to become a true constitutional monarch, "the type of monarch you can find today in Britain, Spain or Sweden."

Some monarchists in exile, though, make clear they would like to see a strong shah restored to the throne, with more than figurehead power.

"The shah remains a symbolic figure who can keep moral integrity intact," Pahlavi said. "I do not believe the monarchy of the future in Iran could have any other form."

Pahlavi admits that his father, who bore the titles "King of



Reza Pahlavi

cells" working to restore the throne his father ruled for 37 years.

He says he meets occasionally with members of the Iranian clergy and Khomeini's Revolutionary Guards, who, he claims, are looking for assurances they would be safe if he came to power. Like some other opposition leaders, he has a radio station beaming messages into Iran.

"Part of the nature of the game is to deal in absolute secrecy," he said when asked to elaborate on his forces. "Our major operational and tactical networks can't be exposed until the final moment."

The young Pahlavi, in contrast to his once all-powerful father, stressed his wish to become a true constitutional monarch, "the type of monarch you can find today in Britain, Spain or Sweden."

Some monarchists in exile, though, make clear they would like to see a strong shah restored to the throne, with more than figurehead power.

"The shah remains a symbolic figure who can keep moral integrity intact," Pahlavi said. "I do not believe the monarchy of the future in Iran could have any other form."

Pahlavi admits that his father, who bore the titles "King of

"Kings" and "Light of the Aryans" overstepped the 1906 constitution.

"One of the reasons there was a reaction to my father late in 1970s was (that people) wanted the constitution to be applied," he said.

The shah policed his country with the dreaded Savak, crushing dissent while he moved to make Iran a world superpower.

"What really took place in Iran was that very rapid growth disturbed a little the natural fibres of our society. People had a hard time keeping up," Pahlavi said.

"It was certainly a gamble that he took," knowing it could lead to demands for political reform, Pahlavi said. "Unfortunately, it turned out to be a disaster."

Many Iranian exiles view monarchists as an elite that lives on nostalgia, with a hopeless dream of recreating an Iranian throne.

A spokesman in Paris for the People's Mujahadeen of Iran, which carries out armed warfare against the Khomeini government and is widely considered the leading Iranian opposition group, said of Pahlavi, "to make nice statements in California, on the Cote d'Azur or here is one thing, but he represents nothing in the field."

"If there is a concrete and active resistance, it is the National Liberation Army," he said, referring to the Mujahadeen's recently created armed forces.

Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, the first president of the Islamic Republic and now an exile in Paris, says Pahlavi has "no chance at all" of restoring the throne.

"He's a young man who doesn't know Iran at all. It's ridiculous," he said.

Monarchy, Pahlavi counters, is a 25-century-old institution in Iran.

"The real basis of support for monarchy happens to be the very same people who are Khomeini's constituents," the peasants, the workers, the poor, he said.

The Iranian people "see in me a certain leadership, a certain aura of playing the role of saviour of the nation, a father figure," he asserted, insisting that neither his name nor his youth is a hindrance.

Western dependence on Arab Gulf oil is growing steadily

By Geoffrey Aronson

WASHINGTON — The Reagan administration's recent decision to deploy warships in the Gulf is the most telling expression of U.S. concern about the West's growing dependence upon Gulf oil. In recent months studies commissioned by the U.S. Department of Energy as well as comments of industry analysts, have raised alarm about the increasing appetite of the industrialised nations for Gulf oil, and the growing power of OPEC to determine higher market prices.

Energy Security, a report by the Department of Energy to President Reagan, details these conclusions and warns of their U.S. negative impact on national security. According to the study, by 1995 Gulf oil producers are projected to supply between 35 and 40 per cent of the world's oil.

OPEC itself is projected to supply between 45 and 60 per cent of international demand. And, as oil from the Gulf becomes a more crucial factor in international security, U.S. dependence on it is expected to grow. In 1986 U.S. oil imports increased almost 1 million b/d to over 5.3 million b/d. Energy Security anticipates that this latter figure will grow to 8-10 million b/d sometime between 1990 and 1995 and reach fifty per cent of U.S. national consumption.

The administration understands such figures as key elements in the U.S. national security equation. As the DoE study makes clear, "a primary purpose of this study has been to consider the national security implications of growing reliance on imports from a small group of supply countries (i.e. OPEC in general and Gulf nations in particular)."

"Revolutions, regional wars, or aggression from outside powers could disrupt a large volume of oil supplies from the Gulf," notes the report, "inflicting severe damage on the economies of the U.S. and allied nations. Oil price increases precipitated by the 1978-79 Iranian revolution contributed to the largest economic recession since the 1930s. Similar or larger events in the future, the report warned, could have far-reaching economic

implications, or even military implications."

The lessons which Washington has learned from these projections and past experience are clear. The Reagan administration appears determined, as it increases its military presence in the Gulf, to assure that the industrial nations' growing dependence upon Gulf oil will not be exploited as it was in 1973 during the October war and in 1979 in the wake of the Iranian revolution.

The concern that the U.S. and its allies are on the precipice of another oil shortage and price increase is palpable. In the short term, market worries about the reflagging effort have jacked prices higher. Growing oil imports at higher prices have contributed to a worsening of the U.S. monthly trade deficit. In the longer term the numbers "make it very clear that we've entered into a cycle that led to the oil shocks of 1973 and 1979," explained George P. Mitchell, president of Houston's Mitchell Energy and Development Corporation, in an interview with the New York Times.

"The country could have very serious problems within a short period of time," he warned. John H. Lichtblau, president of the Petroleum Industry Research Foundation, added that the "period of declining oil prices and declining U.S. dependence of foreign oil has come to an end."

Both men participated in a study by the National Petroleum Council which concluded that U.S. oil imports were likely to reach 48 per cent of consumption by 1995, a level 10 per cent higher than in 1979. Even a "best case" scenario projected that imports in 1990 will equal those of 1979.

Energy experts may see that the era of "feel good" energy forecasts has ended. But U.S. consumers and many politicians still inhabit another, more comforting world. Automobile speed limits have been increased in many states across the country for the first time since 1974 — a symbolic public affirmation that conservation is demode. Demand for petrol compares with levels before the 1979 price increase. "We are in the post conserva-

tion period as far as economic thinking about gasoline and crude oil is concerned," observed Peter C. Beutel, an executive at a New York commodities brokerage.

The experts see a much more dangerous world. In the U.S., oil drilling has fallen to pre-World War II levels according to Energy Security. Expenditures for exploration and development key investments for future U.S. production — were 40 per cent lower in 1986 than in 1983. And in contrast to the Gulf region, where approximately 63 per cent of economically viable oil reserves are located, the U.S. contains only five per cent. The DoE report predicts that the U.S. oil import bill will reach \$80 billion in 1995, up from a mere \$28 billion last year and \$70 billion in 1981.

Administration experts are looking anxiously at OPEC's production capacity as a key indicator of the organisation's ability to increase prices. Price increases have invariably occurred when OPEC produces at least 80 per cent of capacity.

"In 1970," noted Energy Security, "OPEC's output of 24 mbd of oil represented only about 70 per cent of its production capacity; but by 1974, production had increased to 31 mbd more than 80 per cent of capacity and that was when the world got its first serious oil price shock. In 1979, at the time of the second great shock, OPEC's production of nearly 32 mbd represented some 90 per cent of capacity."

In the 1990-95 period, the report predicts, "the setting would be similar to what it had been during previous periods of rapid price increases" as OPEC production exceeded 80 per cent of capacity.

And unlike the 1970s, when non-OPEC sources in the North Sea and Alaska came into production, OPEC now accounts for a crushing 98 per cent of noncommunist surplus capacity. Saudi Arabia alone accounts for one third of this surplus; other Gulf states an additional one third; with most of the remainder located in Libya, Nigeria, and Venezuela — OPEC members all — Arab News, Jeddah.

U.S. fleet's Gulf woes seen reflecting bigger navy defects

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Naval experts say snags encountered by the U.S. fleet in the Gulf war zone are symptoms of a larger problem: President Reagan may be building the wrong navy for the wrong war.

His plan to create a modern 600-ship navy has cost \$484 billion so far. The White House says the fleet is well prepared to cope with crises around the world and can meet his pledge to safeguard shipping in the Iran-Iraq war zone.

But in the mine-strewn Gulf, where the navy is trying to protect 11 Kuwaiti tankers flying the American flag, a dearth of minesweepers has forced U.S. warships into the humiliating position of sheltering behind civilian tankers for protection.

The tankers could withstand mine hits that would probably sink the warships, Pentagon officials conceded.

Military experts say the U.S. navy is dangerously deficient in offensive minelaying capacity, antisubmarine warfare, resupply vessels, and convoy escort warships.

"The navy is getting \$3.5 billion aircraft carriers and neglecting virtually all other categories of ship," retired Admiral Stansfield Turner, former CIA director, told Reuters.

The root of the problem, said retired Admiral Eugene Carroll, is a bold U.S. maritime strategy that calls for U.S. aircraft carrier battle groups to sail into the Soviet Union's home waters and attack key northern ports if war breaks out.

Critics say the strategy is unworkable because big carriers are sitting ducks for modern submarines, sea-skimming cruise missiles and land-based bombers.

They say the carriers and support ships now being built have gone to bolster a much more basic wartime navy role — resupplying Western Europe and defending the sea lanes.

"We are today building not a navy but the world's largest and most expensive naval museum," William Lind, a former congressional military analyst who has lectured at the Naval War College, wrote recently.

Pentagon officials, rejecting such criticism, say today's navy demonstrated its effectiveness in the invasion of Grenada in 1983 and a bombing raid against Libya last year.

Even some critics concede that aircraft carrier battle groups can be a formidable device for showing the flag.

But the critics say serious gaps in America's navy capabilities must not be overlooked, including:

— Mine warfare. Admiral Wesley McDonald, former commander of the Atlantic fleet, recently said the United States was "woefully inadequate" in this area. It has three active and 18 reserve 1950s-era minesweepers, several of which are en route to the Gulf, according to Pentagon officials.

Moscow has an estimated 250-300 minesweepers and is the world's leader in mine warfare, the analysts said. It has an offensive doctrine that calls for minelaying in key trans-Atlantic sea lanes and an arsenal of some



400,000 mines.

Naval experts say Moscow would surely lay mines in its home waters if the U.S. fleet threatened its ports.

Retired Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, a former chief of naval operations, said plans called for America's NATO allies to provide mine warfare support, but he added: "This leaves us in a weakened position when the allies are slow to act."

Anti-submarine warfare (ASW). According to Pentagon figures, Washington has 96 nuclear

powered, conventionally armed attack submarines, which are vital for striking enemy submarines and defending convoys. But Moscow has a daunting 265, both nuclear and diesel powered.

Pentagon officials say U.S. ASW technology is superior but that Moscow has dramatically narrowed the gap, building submarines far quieter and harder to detect with the help of equipment they bought from Japan's Toshiba Machine Co. and Norway's Kongsberg Trade Co.

"We can no longer say our

quality in ASW offsets the quantity of the Soviet antisubmarine force," Admiral Lee Baggett, U.S. chief of NATO's Atlantic navies, told Congress last year.

The U.S. maritime strategy demands that the Soviet submarine threat be virtually neutralised before surface warships move against the Soviet Union's northern ports.

But University of Chicago analyst John Mearsheimer doubts that could be achieved. He estimates the United States might

have as few as 30 attack submarines to take on 140 Soviet submarines in northern waters. The U.S. vessels would also face attack from surface ships and land-based aircraft.

— Small surface ships. The U.S. navy has 68 destroyers and 106 frigates, according to London's International Institute of Strategic Studies. Turner said many more were needed for convoy and escort duty as well as ASW. He said the navy also badly needed more underway replenishment vessels to resupply the fleet at sea.

— Cruise missile defences. Radar-eluding cruise missiles proved deadly in the 1982 Falklands war between Britain and Argentina and in the apparently inadvertent Iraqi attack on the U.S. frigate Stark that killed 37 this summer.

America's relatively few big aircraft carriers were easy targets for Soviet cruise missiles, Carroll said, urging the navy to build more small, less expensive vessels and to pump more money into cruise missile defence research.

Defence expert Jack Beatty wrote in Atlantic magazine recently the U.S. maritime strategy "may be the most important innovation in naval warfare since the Second World War."

But Zumwalt said he doubted top admirals had ever really embraced it.

Turner said he did not think it would ever be implemented because it risked catastrophic ship losses. He said the plan was a political and budget ploy to convince Congress to fund naval programmes, not a serious military strategy.

Letter from Andalusia

By Tom Porteous

SEVILLA. "Cordoba". "Granada". The slot machine outside the park in Barcelona advertises the ancient Arab cities of southern Spain. Five pesetas click their way into the nameless photographic images of Andalusia flash by: the Porphyry and Jasper pillars of the mosque of Abdul-Rahman in Cordoba, a Christendom, a flamenco with her muscular thighs protruding under swirling petticoats and spotted dress. The machine clicks again with finality and darkness falls across the lens.

Cordoba is like a Bunuellesque dream. Inside the famous mosque, two sour middle-aged women in blue nylon cleaning coats are putting out rows of wooden chairs in front of a side altar boots pushes a door concealed in the back of the Arab mihrab (prayer niche). He wanders through carrying a hammer and a plastic bucket. The smell of disinfectant blends with heavy incense. The Cathedral of the Assumption of Maria sprouts incongruously from the middle of the mosque. Crucifixes and side altars, Marias and votary candles — the symbols of Spanish Catholic Kitsch — overflow into what is left of the mosque and disrupt its quiet harmony.

In the bodega across the road, fat legs of pork hang in rows from the ceiling above dark wooden barrels of sherry. Shallow plastic cups are tied to the severed thigh joints to catch the fatty fluid which drips from time to time as the Spanish ham cures in the dry air. At the bar, good looking, peaceful men with Picasso berets and weatherbeaten half Arab faces breakfast on anis and rough brandy.

Granada: "Wa la ghalib illa Allah, wa la ghalib illa Allah" (There is No Victor Save God). The words of the Koran float like a fugue through the ever changing maze of patterns and mosaics which cover the walls and arches of Al Hamra — or what the Spanish call La Alhambra — the last stronghold of Arab rule in Spain.

A beautiful Spaniard was instrumental in the final defeat of the Arabs in Spain. Mulay Hasan, king of Granada, fell in love with Zoraya, a Christian captive. Mulay's son, Boabdil, was prompted by his jealous mother, Aisha, to depose his father. It was the last of many intrigues which the 14th and 15th centuries weakened the Arabs' grasp of their remaining Spanish possessions. Boabdil became master of Granada, but was defeated by Ferdinand and Isabella in 1492, the year Columbus discovered the Americas. Boabdil was expelled. The mountain pass where he turned for his last view of Granada is to this day called "The last sigh of the Moor."

"You do well to cry like a woman for the city you could not defend like a man," his mother Aisha is said to have chided him. Wa la ghalib illa Allah.

Half an hour from Granada by car, "the sigh of the Moor" now boasts a large roadside hoarding advertising Tio Pepe sherry and a small service station where the sun worshippers from Europe's industrial north stop their big fast cars and fill up with expensive Arab petrol and cheap Spanish beer on their way to the beaches of Marbella and Malaga.

In Granada, a steep mountain path overhung with greenery leads up to a lonely lookout tower, once part of the Arab fortifications, now strewn with broken bottles and discarded condoms. Here "Anna y Antonio," "Pedro y Maria," "Luis y Pablo" and others have scribbled erotic epitaphs on charred walls.

The ruined tower looks down, romantically it must be said, on the Generalife — or what the Arabs of Granada call Jannat Al Araf (rural paradise) — the mountain retreat of Mulay and Zoraya. Boabdil, Aisha and their predecessors. Here the cool of the Sierra Nevada blow through arched marble and mosaic rooms and colourful gardens. Below this paradise, Al Hamra, poised on a wooded mountainside is, like Xanadu, girded with walls and turrets. Beneath it lies Granada, the whitewashed houses of the Arab quarter tumbling down the hill across the valley. The cry of the muezzin is carried faintly on the evening breeze up into the mountains.

Attracted by the spiritual atmosphere which hangs in the city and its palaces, Granada today has a small and growing Muslim population. Serene, bearded men with veiled wives are seen wandering along the rural footpaths under the walls of Al Hamra. In a small cafe in the Arab quarter a few young men sit at low tables on cushions and stools. They are singing Egyptian and Maghrebi songs. A Moroccan sailor from Cadix plays the lute. They stop singing and talk of home, of North African villages and cities, of troubled politics and Islam. They lean back and sip sweet mint tea. Someone puts on a cassette of Umm Kalthum. Abdullah enters and begins talking earnestly with the Moroccan waiter. He fingers his brown beard nervously. When he is gone they talk about Abdullah, a recent convert, a Spaniard but a Muslim: "Al Hamdullah," praise be to God. Ali, the Syrian, has been watching and listening. He gets up to leave. He bids farewell to the young men. Tomorrow he flies to Damascus. "He'll be back soon though with his Syrian propaganda," someone says. The Moroccan sailor laughs gently. Someone turns over the tape which has stopped, and the voice of "the lady of Egypt" fills the cafe once more. — Middle East International, London

S. African union leader exercises firm control

By Laurinda Keys
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — Cyril Ramaphosa, son of a mine policeman, former political detainee and lawyer, is the quiet, articulate negotiator guiding the two-week-long strike by most of the nation's black miners.

He opposes capitalism, favours economic sanctions against South Africa to end apartheid, and believes in a long-term policy of nationalising the mines that produce South Africa's wealth.

But in the meantime, he says, the main concern of his National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) is better wages and conditions for workers who "are being oppressed and exploited."

"A self-respecting trade union cannot play its role if it does not address all matters affecting its members, like wages, conditions of employment and matters relating to the political system," Ramaphosa said in a newspaper interview last week.

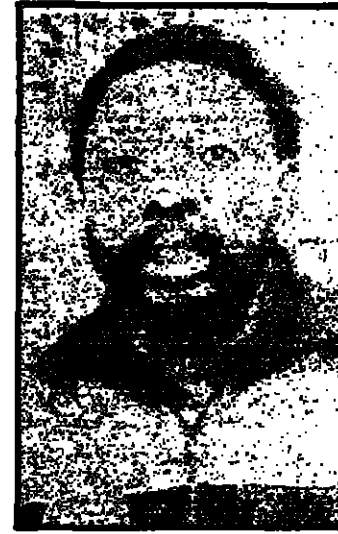
But he added, "NUM is no political organisation. We represent workers who, in our opinion, are being oppressed and exploited."

Ramaphosa, 34, earned a law degree but never went into practice, saying he found it "too mercenary."

The effects of his legal training can be seen in the methodical manner that the union, which he has served as general secretary since its formation in 1982, went about preparing for South Africa's biggest legal strike.

The process involved negotiating on specific demands, declaration of a dispute, an overwhelmingly strike ballot, the union's rebuffed appeal for arbitration and then a three-week delay before the strike announcement in case management made a last-minute offer.

The result is a unity among mineworkers that shocked management, surprised even the union's predictions, and has held together despite thousands of dismissals of striking miners. "Our members aren't kidding," he said at the outset of the



Cyril Ramaphosa

strike. "When our members strike, the industry shuts down."

That confidence is based, to a great extent, on the union's organisation, which involves frequent contact between officials and shop stewards, who are charged with keeping members informed and determining support for action before it is taken.

The strike is considered a test of strength by the mines, who had made last-minute settlements in the past few years. Mining company negotiators give Ramaphosa high praise for his astuteness, hard work and sophistication.

A bearded, chunky, but not tall man, he speaks softly and articu-

lately, making his angry denunciations of mine safety practices, laments over dead and injured strikers, and threats of national industrial action the more forceful by his calm, firm delivery.

Ramaphosa says he is a socialist, and a pragmatist.

"We have to build a strong worker organisation at the workplace, thereafter it will automatically start spilling over into other areas," Ramaphosa said in a newspaper interview.

"If you start on other issues you are not able to build a strong union, cohesive in nature and strong enough to tackle issues outside the workplace."

Ramaphosa was born in Johannesburg, second of the three children of a retired mine policeman, and attended school in Soweto and in the tribal homeland of Venda, in northern Transvaal.

At the all-black University of the North in Turfloop, northern Transvaal, he became chairman of the black South African Students Organisation, later banned.

In 1974, he was detained for 11 months in the Pretoria central prison under the "terrorism" act for participating in a rally supporting Frelimo, then waging its ultimately successful war against Portuguese colonialism in neighbouring Mozambique.

He couldn't get into the university, so he continued his law studies through the University of South Africa, a correspondence

school. He joined the Black Peoples Convention, the main exponent of the black separatism philosophy.

He was arrested again during the 1976 Soweto uprising and spent six months in detention at police headquarters in Johannesburg.

Ramaphosa finished his studies in 1981 and became legal adviser to the exclusively black Council of Unions of South Africa. He was assigned the next year to help organise the National Union of Mineworkers after black unions were legalised, and he was elected general secretary.

In 1983, the union left the black-consciousness oriented Council of Unions and joined the non-racial, socialist, and pro-economic sanctions Congress of South African Trade Unions.

James Motlatsi, a former gold miner, is the union president, but Ramaphosa runs the day-to-day operations.

He sleeps, eats, holds meetings and gives interviews while chain-smoking in the union's offices in downtown Johannesburg.

Ramaphosa was married briefly, but has no children.

Ramaphosa said the first time he led a delegation to negotiate with the Chamber of Mines in 1982, "they probably felt that we did not know what we were letting ourselves in for, and they did not believe that the workers in the industry could be unionised."



South African miners on strike

Drug abuse thrives in Penang despite hanging law

By Ho Wah Foon

PENANG, Malaysia — Tell a Penang pedicab driver that you need drugs and he will probably take you straight to a dingy lane near the island's main harbour.

There, near the cheap hotels of Chulia Street and Leigh Street in this popular Malaysian resort, you can buy a small quantity of heroin packed in an inch-long strip of drinking straw for \$6.

Malaysia has some of the world's toughest drug laws, including mandatory death sentences. But heroin, opium and cannabis are still widely available.

Penang is a popular resort for foreign tourists, backpack-toting travellers who descend on the 34-a-night hotels near the harbour.

Some come as customers of the drug pushers who roam the area offering their wares.

Some enjoy their last taste of freedom here.

Since 1983, 15 foreigners have been arrested in Penang under Malaysia's drug laws, which mandate the death penalty for anyone

found with more than 15 grammes of heroin or 200 grammes of cannabis.

Among them were New Zealander Lorraine Phyllis Cohen and her son Aaron, currently on trial before the Penang high court.

Forty people have been hanged for drug offences in Malaysia since 1975, among them 10 foreigners — two Australians, six Singaporeans, an Indonesian and a Thai.

Nineteen others have been convicted of trafficking since 1983, when mandatory death sentences were introduced, and are waiting for their appeals to be heard.

Malaysia, close to the poppy crops of the Golden Triangle and thus a convenient transshipment centre for opium or heroin destined for the West, has an estimated 500,000 drug users, smugglers and pushers out of its 16 million population.

The figures were compiled by the National Drugs Research Centre, which estimates Malaysian drug users spend about \$1.2 million each day to satisfy their

needs. Penang itself has about 40,000 addicts, according to the research centre which is based on the island off Malaysia's north-western coast.

The island's acting police chief, Harry Greenall, said he believed traffickers were now avoiding Penang because of "our improved network of informants and friends."

He said police paid for information leading to the arrest of traffickers. The fee was from 10 to 30 per cent of the street value of any drugs seized.

But lawyer Rasiah Rajasingham, some of whose clients face the gallows under the 1983 law, said drug syndicates thrived in Penang because they bribed some policemen.

He said the syndicates sometimes set up "small fry" for police to arrest so they would have something to report to their superiors.

Greenall denied the allegations.

"If there is sufficient information, I can assure you we will do something. I will arrest anybody.

I don't care who they are," he said.

"We are not after the drug addicts who are victims of social problems, but pushers, suppliers and the big time," he added.

The Malaysian government, criticised for the severity of its drug laws, says mandatory death sentences are a powerful deterrent.

At a recent news conference in the capital, Kuala Lumpur, Deputy Home Affairs Minister Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayub said that 1,800 foreigners and Malaysians had been arrested in connection with drug offences in the first half of this year compared with 5,800 in the whole of 1986.

Dr. Vis Navaratnam, director of the National Drugs Research Centre, said Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong were among the first Asian countries to seriously combat drug abuse.

"Drugs respect no social group, country, race or age... it took a long time to start combating it and so it will take a long time to end the problem," Navaratnam said.

appearance of disease," he says. Koalas are difficult to spot, camouflaged in eucalyptus trees and active for only a few hours each day, mostly at night. There are no statistics on the current size of Australia's koala population or on the number of diseased animals.

Once numbering in the millions, koalas never recovered from the slaughter of the 19th and early 20th centuries, when they were hunted for their fur. Pelts were shipped as far as Alaska and fashioned into hats. The last open season was in 1927.

Koalas have been both adored and attacked as Australian ambassadors of good will. Along with kangaroos, they are the most popular of the continent's 170 species of marsupials (pouched mammals), which also include wombats, wallabies, and wallaroos.

Not really bears

Koalas have the appeal of teddy bears come to life, although they are not even related to bears. Their closest relative is the wombat.

Koalas gained international recognition as stars of a Qantas Airways advertising campaign. But there is more to Australia than koalas, tourism minister John Brown pointed out in 1983. He started an uproar when he attempted to destroy the koala myth.

"The belief of Americans that they are a lovely, cuddly little bear is fairly well exploded," Brown declared, "when they get here and pick one of the rotten little things up. They find it's flea-ridden, it piddles on you, it stinks, and it scratches."

Defenders of koalas say they react like any animal in the wild not accustomed to human contact. Koalas are solitary creatures. They have sharp claws for climbing. Their eucalyptus diet makes them smell like cough drops.

Outside Australia, koalas are found only in zoos in Japan and the United States. They can survive in eucalyptus-growing climates such as San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

"We have trained young people to go around counting koalas, noting densities, the kinds of forests they're in, and any

Koalas may be cuddly, but stress gets them

By Joy Aschenbach

National Geographic

SYDNEY, Australia — To look at them, dozing most of the day high up in eucalyptus trees — their chubby bodies curled in a tree fork or slumped over a branch, arms and legs dangling — you'd never think they were under stress.

Koalas are almost as well-known for their sleepy-eyed, slow-moving, sedentary existence as they are for being the cuddly symbol of their native Australia.

Although there's no scientific proof, some Australians believe koalas are habitually drugged because they eat virtually nothing but eucalyptus leaves.

Multitude of maladies

Yet, despite their drowsy disposition, koalas are suffering from stress-aggravated diseases. First noticed in the mid-1970s, the diseases have been traced to a bacterium, *Chlamydia psittaci*, which can cause blindness, infertility, and urinary and respiratory infections.

Scientists are most worried about infertility. "The disease threat is widespread. In some areas, 50 to 98 per cent of a colony is affected," says Steve Brown, research veterinarian at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, who is testing antibiotic treatments on captive koalas.

Although koalas are not listed as an endangered species, Brown says they are "very, very vulnerable and in danger of becoming extinct one locality at a time."

Koalas are also susceptible to other diseases such as pneumonia, leukemia, and bone cancer. "Their immune system appears to be retarded," he explains.

Just as threatening as disease is the rapid destruction of koala habitat. The koala's only natural range, the eucalyptus (gum) forests of eastern Australia, is in the region humans have developed the fastest.

Where eucalyptus trees are cut down for housing construction, particularly along the coast, koalas are forced out. On the ground, in search of new sources of eucalyptus, some are attacked



Home is up a tree for Australia's famous koalas. The small marsupials live in the branches of eucalyptus trees and feed on the leaves. This mother and her young are protected at the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary near Brisbane, but koalas in the wild are threatened by diseases and loss of habitat (National Geographic photo)

by wild dogs or struck by cars. Paul Canfield, veterinary pathologist at the University of Sydney, says about 40 per cent of the approximately 200 koalas he has autopsied were killed by cars.

"When you put a road through their territory, and food is on the other side, koalas don't recognise the road as a barrier. And they get hit," he says.

Destroy own food source

In some places where stands of eucalyptus are left, the trees are overcrowded with koalas. Under such conditions, disease can spread more quickly. Koalas can destroy their food source by stripping the branches bare.

To ease this stressful situation, the Australian government is moving some koalas to less densely populated eucalyptus

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Aniyah Girls School

Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.

6:30-Midnight

Tel. 638968

慕堂餐廳

MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant

The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman. Chinese Flaming pot is available

Take away available

Open daily 12:00-15:30

18:00-23:30

Wadi Sagra Road - near Traffic Bridge

Amman, Jordan

Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.

6:30-Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT

TAIWAN TOURISMO

Authentic Chinese Food

Korean Bar-B-Q

Charcoal Flaming Pot

Take-away service

Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

Location: Near 3rd Circle opposite Akliah Hospital

Tel: 641093

EVERY DAY

PEOPLE WHO NEED

MAINTENANCE SERVICES

CALL US!

Electrolux

P.O. Box 925229 AMMAN

Tel. 604671

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

packing, shipping, forwarding, international moving, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world

Tel: 664090, 660852

Tlx: 22295 BESMICO JO

Cable: NUSUBHED

P.O. Box 92847

AMMAN JORDAN

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION CALL

667171/6-670141/4

Ext. 223

Six leading teams vie for first 3 slots in Asian handball

By Rania Atalla
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Competition intensifies Tuesday among the leading six teams in the Asian Men's Handball Championships as they vie to gain a berth in qualifying matches for the first three positions.

With the first round of the championship over, the six teams meet today seeking semifinal positions. Kuwait is scheduled to meet Bahrain in the first men's game this afternoon while S. Korea takes on China and Japan faces Qatar. The winners of the three games qualify to the finals, slated for Saturday.

The Chinese Taipei, Nepalese, Jordanian, Palestinian and Syrian teams were ousted during Sunday's heats against Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Japan and China respectively. They move into the second round to compete on Wednesday for the 9th, 10th and 11th positions.

In the women's games, Korea

is scheduled to play against Syria on Tuesday morning while China faces Japan later in the day. The winning team will qualify to compete for second and third positions on Thursday.

On Wednesday, the women's Chinese Taipei and the Jordanian teams are in for a showdown that will decide the 5th and 6th positions. The third and fourth positions, however, will remain contingent on the results of Tuesday's matches.

The board of directors of the Asian Handball Federation (AHF), which met on Sunday, endorsed Syria's request to organise and host the forthcoming championships in 1988.

Table of standings

Men	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1st Group:							
S. Korea	2	2	—	—	73	47	4
Bahrain	2	1	—	1	47	63	2
Taipei	2	—	—	2	51	61	—
2nd Group:							
Kuwait	3	3	—	—	98	37	6
Qatar	3	1	1	1	83	37	6
Jordan	3	1	1	1	59	68	3
Nepal	3	—	—	3	31	106	—
3rd Group:							
Japan	3	3	—	—	84	43	6
China	3	2	—	1	79	62	4
Syria	3	1	—	2	60	68	2
Palestine	3	—	—	3	44	94	—
Women							
1st Group:							
Korea	2	2	—	—	74	27	4
Japan	2	1	—	1	51	52	2
Taipei	2	—	—	2	31	77	—
2nd Group:							
China	2	2	—	—	90	16	4
Syria	2	1	—	1	33	51	2
Jordan	2	—	—	2	19	75	—

Signs grow that Soviet sportsmen could leave for the West

MOSCOW (R) — Signs are growing that Soviet sportsmen could soon be playing for clubs in the West as officials in Moscow show a new willingness to let their players go abroad.

Already Torpedo Moscow footballer Sergei Shavlo has agreed terms with Rapid Vienna and a number of ice hockey players could become part of a more general exodus once permission is granted by the Soviet Sports Committee, which has the equivalent of ministerial status.

"We are ready to discuss ice hockey and soccer players playing abroad but we have not yet had the personal invitations from foreign clubs," said Vyacheslav Koloskov, in charge of soccer and ice hockey on the sports committee.

"We are expecting the invitations but so far only Shavlo has gone," he said.

Even if there is only a limited departure of Soviet players, it will mark a sharp change in policy.

Ice hockey players have received permission in the past to play in the West but no national squad members have appeared in the North American National Hockey League (NHL). The last

soccer player to join a western team was in the early 1980s.

In 1982, a sports committee official said: "Our policy is that we allow sportsmen to work as trainers for foreign clubs but they cannot play."

But senior sports officials indicated to Reuters that this policy had changed. Six members of the Soviet basketball squad are currently playing a series of games for the U.S. club Atlanta Hawks and football federation secretary Alexei Paramonov said others could follow Shavlo's example provided they, too, were over 30.

"If foreign clubs apply and Soviet clubs agree, and the players are over 30, they can go. If one swallow flies, then others will follow," Paramonov said.

He declined to comment on a Soviet newspaper report that other unnamed players had been approached by clubs in West Germany, Austria and Greece.

Igor Dmitriev, deputy coach to the national ice hockey squad, recently said in Stockholm, where the Soviet Union was playing Sweden, that he would not be surprised if about 20 Soviet players joined NHL clubs in the next two seasons.

Inquiries launched into powerboat deaths as tributes pour in

POOLE, England (AP) — Two investigations began Monday into the deaths of former Formula One motor racing driver Didier Pironi and two other Frenchmen, killed when their high-speed powerboat crashed during an international meet off the south coast of England.

As the inquiries into Sunday's accident — one by local police, the other by race organisers — got under way, current Grand Prix drivers and the French government paid tribute to the victims.

Italy's Michele Alboreto, a member of the Ferrari team for whom Pironi drove when a serious accident forced him into retirement five years ago, said the Frenchman was "a victim of adverse destiny against which he fought uselessly."

Pironi, Alboreto added, was "stricken by bad luck."

The death of the 35-year-old ex-Grand Prix ace and his two countrymen filled the front pages of newspapers across France, with Premier Jacques Chirac leading the accolades.

"I learn with great sadness of the accident that cost the lives of Didier Pironi, Bernard Giroux and Jean-Claude Guenard. I join the world in mourning these sportsmen," Chirac said in a statement.

The three Frenchmen perished instantly when their boat, Colibri, hit the wash of a passing oil tanker at speeds approaching 100 knots (115 mph) on the second lap of the 280-kilometre Needles Trophy Race around the Isle of Wight, part of the European Powerboat Championship.

Eyewitnesses said the Colibri corkscrewed 20 feet into the air and came crashing down on the water, trapping two of the victims in their seats as high octane fuel spilled out all around. Pironi was driving at the time in conditions that were described as calm.

The 3.5-tonne tanker, the British-registered Esso-Avon, had just left nearby Southampton en route for Belfast in Northern Ireland.

Officials of the Royal Motor Yacht Club in Poole, organisers of Sunday's race, said experts had been dispatched to nearby Lymington, where the Colibri lay damaged after being towed in.

German wins U.S. Tennis Association tourney

MANHASSET, New York (AP) — Second-seeded Gabriella Dinu of West Germany rallied to overtake Maryanne van der Torre of the Netherlands in the final of the U.S. Tennis Association's \$25,000 challenger tournament. Dinu, 27, won the match 7-6, (7-5), 6-3 to claim the \$4,000 first prize at the Shelter Rock tennis club. Dinu trailed 5-3 in the tiebreaker, but used her forehand to force Van der Torre into errors at the net and won four straight points.

ment abroad.

Playing abroad would also give Soviet sportsmen, who are officially amateur, an experience of competing in professional leagues. The idea of making Soviet soccer clubs professional is a popular topic in the country's media.

The last footballer to play for a Western club was Anatoly Zinchenko, who joined Rapid Vienna briefly in the early 1980s.

Dynamo Kiev striker Oleg Blokhin was prevented from going to the West in 1982 and Yuri Gavrilov, then with Spartak Moscow, failed to join Rapid Vienna last year after officials said he was preparing to sign a two-year contract.

Ice hockey players who have received permission to play in the West in the past include Sergei Makarov, picked by Calgary in 1983, and Vladimir Krutov and Igor Larionov, who were drafted by Vancouver in 1984 and 1985 respectively.

Alexei Kasatonov was recruited by New Jersey in 1983 and Vyacheslav Fetisov was signed by Montreal in 1978 and by New Jersey in 1983.

Aouita seeks 5,000-metre world record in Rome

RABAT (R) — World record holder Said Aouita will run in the 5,000 metres at the World Athletics Championships in Rome and then concentrate on the 1,500 metres, the Rabat daily L'Opinion reported Monday.

"I want the world 5,000 title," he said. "Despite my world records, I can get it only if I win the final in Rome."

Aouita won the 5,000 metres gold medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics and holds the world records for 1,500 and 2,000 metres and two miles.

"After winning in Rome, I will have nothing else to win over 5,000 metres. So, I will tackle the 1,500 metres with the same ambition," he said.

"This means improving the world record which I hold with 3 minutes 29.46 seconds, becoming 1988 Olympics champion and world champion in 1989."

Edberg crushes Becker to snatch ATP crown

MASON, Ohio (AP) — Mild-mannered Stefan Edberg has turned into a Swedish superman on the tennis court just in time for one of the biggest tournaments of the year.

Edberg played perhaps the best match of his career Sunday in drubbing Boris Becker 6-4, 6-1 to win the \$75,000 Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Championships.

His serve wasn't quite as fast as a speeding bullet; his volleys lacked the power of a locomotive. But his unfailingly accurate strokes and uncanny knack for being in the right place during the one-hour, 20-minute match left Becker in awe.

"He played the best I've seen him play — ever," said the 19-year-old West German, seeded third in the tournament. "You saw how well he played — he couldn't miss a ball."

"He was playing with a lot of intuition. He just picked the right shots (to make) at the right time — all the time."

Edberg, the tournament's number 2 seed, had a good week leading up to the final, winning every match in straight sets. He said the victory over Becker was perhaps the best match of his career.

Asked whether he could have beaten anyone Sunday, including the world's top-ranked player, Ivan Lendl, Edberg smiled and said, "yeah, I would say so."

The victory enhanced his chances of such a match in the upcoming U.S. Open. Edberg came into the ATP ranked third



NO TIME FOR A SHOWER: Jockey Andreas Elmhof holds the reins of his filly as he failed to grab the West German military championships after falling off the horse. The three-day event has taken its toll on horses and riders due to the harsh and fierce racing conditions (photo: INP)

behind Lendl and fellow Swede Mats Wilander. Wilander's fourth-round loss in the ATP opened the way for Edberg to jump ahead in the rankings and be in the bottom half of the open draw.

His goal now is to maintain the high level of play for a few more weeks.

"I think I'm very well prepared for the open," he said. "I'm going to practice this week. I think I should be all right for the open. I see no reason why I shouldn't play well. I feel good and I'm healthy."

"I'm playing very good on hard courts for the moment. I've had a lot of success this year."

The 21-year-old Swede is 23-3 on hard courts this year. "He's just a player with a lot of confidence — that's all of the difference," Becker said.

However, the confidence hasn't brought cockiness. Edberg displays little emotion during a match and maintains a polite, quiet demeanor off the court.

"He's very mild," said Becker, who has played him in 11 tournaments and practiced with him. "I wouldn't say he's shy. He doesn't say many words."

"He has many things to express, but not with his words. He feels more comfortable playing rather than expressing with words. Let's say he's the opposite of (John) McEnroe."

It was Becker's first defeat in 12 matches at the ATP championship, which he won in 1985. He didn't play last year.

One-sided Pan Am Games hit by drug scandal again

INDIANAPOLIS (R) — Heavily one-sided competition tarnished by the hint of another drug scandal were the key elements of the Pan American Games which closed Sunday night.

The American hosts predictably headed the medals table, dominating virtually every event — with the notable exception of Cuba's supremacy in boxing and weightlifting and their upset basketball defeat to Brazil — to complete a record medals haul of 168 golds, 117 silvers and 83 bronzes.

Nearest rivals Cuba collected 75 golds from the 15 days of competition, saving their best performances for the boxing ring over the final weekend where they won a record 10 golds in the 12 weight categories.

With the exception of a handful of events, the hosts' domination resulted generally in lacklustre and second-rate competition.

Action on the track and in the pool frequently disappointed with a clutch of athletics stars absent and the leading U.S. and Canadian swimmers committed to the

Pan-Pacific Championships in Brisbane, Australia.

The games also failed to lay to rest the shameful memory of Caracas when 19 drugs-related disqualifications brought disgrace to the 1983 Venezuela Games.

The embarrassment of the hosts, U.S. hammer silver medalist Bill Green was among six athletes disqualified here after failing drug tests.

Two others — weightlifters Orlando Vasquez-Mendoza, whose three bronzes represented Nicaragua's only medals of the games, and Venezuelan Markman Bernardo Ocampo — were also stripped of their medals.

Several other competitors escaped unpunished after being caught with traces of the steroid-masking drug prebenoid in their urine. The drug, which prevents the detection of steroids, is yet to be added to the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) list of banned substances.

Nowhere was U.S. domination more obvious than in the pool, where they won 27 of the 32 golds up for grabs.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Dr. Majali, Sheikh Sabah tour U of J

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Asian Handball Federation (AHF) Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah Monday visited the University of Jordan where he was received by University President Abdul Salam Al Majali. Dr. Majali briefed the guest on the development of education in Jordan. He also briefed him on the university's development and progress over the last 25 years. Sheikh Sabah was accompanied on the visit by heads of the sports federations, taking part in the Asian Handball Championships, currently being held in Amman.

'King Kong' crushed to death in bout

GREAT YARMOUTH, England (R) — A 350-pound (158-kilogramme) wrestler was crushed to death on Monday by his super heavyweight opponent in front of a crowd of 2,000 at this eastern English coastal resort. Malcolm "King Kong" Kirk was knocked out after 336-pound (152-kilogramme) Shirley "Big Daddy" Crabtree jumped into him 15 minutes into the bout. Ambulancemen jumped into the ring to give Kirk mouth-to-mouth resuscitation but were unable to revive him and he died on the way to hospital.

Italians, Australian win Czech race

BRNO, Czechoslovakia (AP) — Italians Fausto Gresini and Bruno Casanova took first and second place in the 125 cc race at the Czech Grand Prix motorcycle competition Sunday, and Australian Wayne Gardner won the 500 cc event. Gresini took his ninth consecutive win on a Garelli before some 200,000 spectators to secure his second world championship. He led the standings with 135 points with Casanova, also on a Garelli, a distant second with 88. In the 250 cc category, West German Toni Mang, riding a Honda MSR, posted his seventh victory in this year's championships, edging Dominique Sarrone of France by 3.43 seconds.

Benfica's win opens Portuguese season

LISBON (R) — Defending champions Benfica opened Portugal's soccer season with a 3-0 win over newly-promoted Covilha on Sunday. Covilha withstood Benfica's onslaught in the first half, but the dam burst 46 minutes into the game with a goal by striker Diamantino. He scored again 10 minutes later. Rui Aguas rounded off the scoring for the visiting Lisbon side with a goal a minute before the end.

Rush's injury could keep him out

LECCE, Italy (R) — Ian Rush's debut for Juventus ended in disappointment Sunday night when he pulled a thigh muscle which could keep him out of action for three weeks. The Welsh soccer international, who moved from Liverpool for \$4.6 million, came off five minutes before the end of Juventus' Italian Cup preliminary round match against Second Division Lecce in southern Italy. Rush is due to play for Wales in a European championship qualifier against Denmark on September 9, four days before the start of the Italian League season. Juventus beat Lecce 3-0 but Rush failed to score.

KGB floors opposition in boxing events

TOKYO (R) — A team from the Soviet KGB secret police scored well in a communist boxing tournament in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang last week. The North Korean News Agency reported Monday. The agency, monitored in Tokyo, said the 25th Boxing Tournament for communist security organisations ended Sunday with Moscow's men winning in most divisions. The Soviet Union's Aleksandr Miroshnikov beat opponents from the security police forces of Czechoslovakia and East Germany to win the heavyweight title.

Molitor extends hitting streak to 38 games

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Milwaukee's Paul Molitor extended his hitting streak to 38 games Sunday with a single in the fifth inning against the Kansas City Royals. The streak is the fifth longest in major-league history. In the first inning, Molitor hit a fly ball to center field and batting in the third, he flied to left. Leading off the fifth, Molitor lined a single to left off starter Charlie Leibrandt to keep the streak alive. He was given a two-minute standing ovation by the County Stadium crowd. On Saturday night, Molitor equaled Tommy Holmes' streak of 37 in 1945 for the Boston Braves.

Italian squad for cycling race named

VARESE, Italy (AP) — Defending world champion Moreno Argentin and veterans Francesco Moser and Giuseppe Saronni were included in the Italian squad for the World Road Cycling Championships scheduled in Villach, Austria, on Sept. 6. Italian manager Alfredo Martini named the 15-man team following a warmup race, the Tre Valli Varesine in this northern town Sunday. Thirteen Italians will start in the championship. Two will be reserves. Martini did not immediately name them.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Consisting of two bedrooms, salon, dining room, L-shaped sitting room, air-conditioning, two bathrooms, balcony, complete kitchen, all electric appliances and telephone.

Location: Shmeisani, opposite the French School. PLS. call after 10:00 a.m., tel.: 664839, Amman

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Consisting of two bedrooms, salon, dining room, two verandas, kitchen, bathroom, garage, separate central heating and telephone. Annual rent, JD 1,400. Location: Abdoun, near the Orthodox Club.

For information, please call tel.: 819297, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

OFFICE FURNITURE

Furnish your office from a wide range of office furniture, fitted carpets, curtains, and wallpapers at competitive prices.

Contact Al-Nadwah Trading Co. at Tel: 604777

Cinema Tel: 677420

CONCORD

THREE AMIGOS

Performances 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30



Cinema Tel: 625153

RAINBOW

LETHAL WEAPON

Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30



Cinema Tel: 675573

OPERA

RUTHLESS PEOPLE

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30



Cinema Tel: 675571

PLAZA

BEY THE DOOR KEEPER

Performances 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

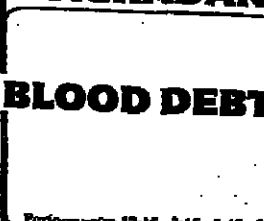


Cinema Tel: 622198

RAGHADAN

BLOOD DEBTS

Performances 12:15, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15



LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.6270/80	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.8235/40	Canadian dollar
	2.0550/60	West German marks
	1.5060/70	Dutch guilders
	37.87/90	Swiss francs
	6.0950/1000	Belgian francs
	1320/1321	French francs
	142.95/143.05	Italian lira
	6.3550/3900	Japanese yen
	6.7000/50	Swedish crowns
	6.0200/50	Norwegian crowns
One ounce of gold	455.70/456.20	Danish crowns
		U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities stood firm but slightly below their midday highs after a lower opening on Wall Street, dealers said. The new account began on a bright note Monday morning on institutional buying in the wake of week-end press comment that last week's correction, which took the FTSE 100 index down 90 points, could be over. However, dealers said trading remained cautious, with volume not a great deal up on last week's lacklustre levels.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was up 14.1 at 2,219.9 after touching a high of 2,236.5 at 1115 GMT. Underpinning Monday's firmer trend was the Japanese securities firm Nomura Securities Co. Ltd., which made its market-making debut on the London market on Monday. Nomura, the world's largest securities house, has begun by dealing in 10 blue chip stocks and is the first major Japanese house to enter the U.K. equity market.

Dealers said that further consideration in the wake of last week's worse-than-expected U.K. bank lending data for July had led to a slight improvement in overall sentiment, but noted that the U.K. economic and interest rate picture still looked a little cloudy.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You may have a feeling of frustration over what seem to be many obstacles in your path. These, however, are actually opportunities which can assist you greatly.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A co-worker could be depressed, but don't let that disturb you. Keep your spirits high and be quite productive.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Keep that promise you've made to your mate, even if belated, and be cheerful about it. Have confidence in yourself.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Home matters requiring special attention can be cleared up, provided they're given sufficient effort.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Stop putting off important communications, but consider your position first. Be wary of reckless drivers.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A family friend has excellent advice concerning your financial situation. Listen carefully to this, and follow it up.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Gather the data necessary to help you work more efficiently. Accept an invitation from a close friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Consult an expert about an interest which fascinates you, and you'll find the best way to make it operate successfully.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Permit a good friend who has excellent judgment to suggest where your energies should be placed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Follow all rules and regulations which apply to you. If you ask a superior for a favor, do so confidentially.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Become more active and you can be more successful. You have much ability, so don't keep it dormant.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be alert to an opportunity to do something in public which will please your mate. Use your talents.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) It would be best to postpone a discussion with an associate until you have a chance to check the facts and figures.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she may be a little slow learning to read and write, but once a desire for knowledge is acquired, it will be all-consuming. Teach your child the basics of business, since talent as an entrepreneur is indicated. He or she will also be a wonderfully dedicated family person.

THE Daily Crossword

by Roger Coburn

ACROSS

- over (zealot)
- Snake
- Open slightly
- They amount
- Ms. Keaton
- contenders
- Harrison's V.P.
- Pronoun
- Greek late
- Comfort
- Formerly
- Care spike
- Alarm
- Intolerant
- one
- Suds on tap
- Daaf — post
- Author Haley
- GUTW home
- Anger
- Tender to the touch
- Antenna
- Shingles
- Landl at st.
- Least
- Apollon's mother
- Conger or lamprey
- Chore
- Styx ferryman
- Achievement
- Basalt
- Officiate
- Blind as —
- Ladder item
- Thames
- Reagan's V.P.
- Maintenance
- Sesame Street character
- Agave of
- Football players
- Fish
- Temple

DOWN

- Powder base
- Roman road
- Bird of peace
- Residue
- Commotion
- Worse
- Information
- Son of Seth
- Break a rule
- of play
- Composer
- Dvorak
- FD's V.P.
- St. Guineas
- Trevi's city
- Convens
- Moris dog
- Sphere
- Count of music
- "Lucy"
- Nixon's V.P.
- Yoked beasts
- Lively
- Roof overhang
- Take care of
- Fire crime
- Wool
- Alley Oop's
- girl
- Apiece
- Holy woman: abbr.
- Proverbs
- London park
- Kalauer
- Slight furrow
- Contest
- Dash
- Field of 71A
- First-rate
- Black
- Synthetic rubber
- Rattle words
- A Jefferson name: abbr.
- Colloidal solution

Yesterday's Puzzle Solver:

1. Information
2. Son of Seth
3. Break a rule
4. of play
5. Composer
6. Dvorak
7. FD's V.P.
8. St. Guineas
9. Trevi's city
10. Convens
11. Moris dog
12. Sphere
13. Count of music
14. "Lucy"
15. Nixon's V.P.
16. Yoked beasts
17. Lively
18. Roof overhang
19. Take care of
20. Fire crime
21. Wool
22. Alley Oop's
23. girl
24. Apiece
25. Holy woman: abbr.
26. Proverbs
27. London park
28. Kalauer
29. Slight furrow
30. Contest
31. Dash
32. Field of 71A
33. First-rate
34. Black
35. Synthetic rubber
36. Rattle words
37. A Jefferson name: abbr.
38. Colloidal solution

Lebanese central bank avoids pricing lira

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's central bank abstained from pricing the Lebanese lira again Monday while official figures showed the cost of key consumer items rose 300 per cent over the first eight months of the year.

For the second day's trading the central bank refrained from posting the price of the Lebanese lira after it lost eight per cent of its international value last Friday. It closed then at 267.50 (265.00/270.00) to the dollar, but dealers said it continued to be traded Monday at prices ranging between 255.00 and 282.00 to the U.S. currency.

"Trading was thin, and the suspension of pricing by the central bank helped steady the market to some extent by reducing demand for the dollar," one banker said.

The lira has lost 69 per cent of its international value this year.

There was more bad news on Lebanon's economic crisis from the Consumers' Protection Department, an organization affiliated to the ministry of economy. It said prices of milk, meat, cheese, medicine and basic household items such as detergent had risen 300 per cent since Jan. 1 this year.

The department's report, published in local newspapers, said the value of Lebanon's minimum wage of 4,300 liras a month had dropped from \$50 at the beginning of the year to \$16 this month.

A 2.5 kilogramme tin of powdered milk costing 410 liras in January was now selling at 1,750 liras. Meat which sold at 270 liras a kilogramme now cost 1,950 liras, it said.

Bank of Japan halts further decline of dollar

LONDON (R) — The dollar took a new nosedive Monday then it was rescued by aggressive market intervention from Japan's central bank, but currency dealers said the respite may only be temporary.

In Asia, the dollar slipped Monday below 141 Japanese yen — it was comfortably above 151 just 10 days ago when the United States announced a set of particularly bad trade figures and sent the currency tumbling.

With 140 yen in sight Monday, the Bank of Japan entered the market and poured money from its coffers to buy between \$400 and \$500 million and arrest the decline.

"The Bank of Japan was apparently determined to halt the dollar's further decline towards 140 yen," a Tokyo dealer said.

Later, Tokyo sources also said the central bank was in touch with its U.S. counterpart, the Federal Reserve, about concerted action to steady the dollar.

These measures had the desired effect. Dealers scrambled to buy the dollar to cover themselves, and it was back up around 143 yen and 1.8235 West German marks at midday in Europe.

European dealers were wary of being caught short of dollars in case more central bank buying drove up the price and so they decided to look to the New York market for a lead.

The dollar has shed about five per cent of its value against the yen and four per cent against the mark since Aug. 14, when the United States said its trade gap widened to \$15.7 billion in June.

It is close to levels seen this spring when central banks spent billions to stabilise its value, in line with the Feb. 22 "Louvre

Rail workers strike in Canada

MONTREAL (R) — Workers at Canada's two national railways went on strike early Monday, shutting down freight and passenger services across the country.

The walkout came after contract talks between the railways and the union collapsed on Sunday.

"We're shutting down the railway," Mr. Don Fraleigh, Canadian National Rail's vice-president of labour relations, said.

Europeans may supercede Americans in forming joint ventures with Soviets

WASHINGTON (AP) — West European nations may be quicker than America to respond to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's bid for Western companies to enter joint ventures in the Soviet Union, according to a study released Monday.

The Soviets have passed legislation allowing Western companies to own up to 49 per cent of joint ventures based in the Soviet Union, but negotiations with U.S. companies have failed to yield any firm agreements.

Despite some difficulties, entering into such ventures would benefit the West by earning "modest" profits for some companies and exposing Soviets to Western ideas, said a study released by the Atlantic Council. The Washington-based group consists of business executives, scholars and former government officials concerned with relations among the Western democracies.

The legal changes that opened the door for joint ventures are part of the restructuring advanced by Mr. Gorbachev to make the Soviet economy more efficient.

Overproduction by OPEC likely to increase

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Total OPEC oil production this month is expected to reach an estimated 19.7 million barrels a day, three million barrels over the level agreed at the group's Geneva conference in June, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

The respected Nicosia-based oil digest said most of the overproduction was by member states of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in the Gulf, including Iran and Iraq which have been at war for nearly seven years.

The weekly noted that amid falling oil prices, the governments of several OPEC countries have officially complained to the president of the 13-member organisation, Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwan Lukman, about production levels by other member states that exceed the quotas agreed in Geneva.

The overall production ceiling for 12 of the 13 OPEC members, excluding Iraq, set in Geneva was 16.6 million barrels a day.

The weekly's estimate for August production was one million barrels a day more than the estimated OPEC output for July of 18.6 million barrels daily "which had already been regarded as excessive."

The survey noted: "the bulk of the increase in output has definitely emanated from the Gulf area, although a number of OPEC exporters from other areas are suspected of excess output, including Nigeria and Libya, both reported to be 100,000-200,000 barrels a day over-quota."

The weekly said that Iraq was producing around 2.2 million barrels a day and was expected to boost that an estimated 2.5-2.6 million barrels daily by next

The Soviets were able to buy embargoed items from other countries, said Mr. Verity, who is one of 94 directors of the Atlantic Council.

The United States imposed sanctions after Soviet troops intervened in Afghanistan in 1979. Other restrictions were tied to the level of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union.

The sanctions, said the report, "persuaded the Soviets that the United States is an unreliable partner with which to construct an extensive dependency."

A U.S. embargo on the sale of equipment for a natural gas pipeline from Siberia to Western Europe angered not only the Russians but the Europeans.

Failure by the U.S. government to reach accord with its European allies on responding to the joint venture overture could "produce major NATO tensions reminiscent of the natural gas pipeline case in the early 1980's," Atlantic Council President George Seignious wrote in the foreword to the report.

U.S. trade with the Soviets has also been impeded by U.S. government fears that "intensive in-

volvement with more advanced U.S. industry might boost the already substantial Soviet military effort," the study noted, calling for a reappraisal of export controls to assure that they do not unnecessarily impede trade but do protect American security interests.

Overall, "Western interests are served if Soviet leaders give greater priority to achieving economic efficiency for their country and to increasing their stake in the maintenance of an orderly world," said the study, written by Mr. G. Jonathan Greenwald and Mr. Leonard Sullivan.

The prospects for joint ventures may ultimately be harmed more by Soviet than U.S. attitudes. East-West trade has been hampered "because the Soviets have not been prepared to institute the kind of reforms in their economic system that would make investment opportunities more attractive to Western firms," the study said, adding: "The Soviet system has so far failed to provide those things that show businessmen that fair profits can be made."

Venezuela had earlier also complained that the Geneva accord was being breached, charging this jeopardised the OPEC price structure and was damaging those OPEC members who were sticking to the quota system.

Meanwhile, London's Daily Express reported Monday that Iran is earning up to \$20 million a day more from its oil than it was a year ago because of tension in the Gulf.

The conservative daily, quoting unidentified oil experts, said the country's religious leaders were "making a fortune out of the war fever they have whipped up in the Gulf."

According to the report, Western countries are "desperate" to stockpile oil in case the tension breaks out into war.

Despite reports of mines and warships "cluttering the Gulf from end to end," Iran is shuttling millions of barrels of oil daily through the Strait of Hormuz, the report said.

"Even Kuwait — which has had some of its reflagged tankers held up or damaged in the American naval convoys — is coining in nearly \$10 million a day more than it was at the start of the summer," the newspaper said.

It said that when the U.S. frigate Stark was hit by an Iraqi missile on May 17, killing 37 crewmen, producers in the OPEC group were shipping out five million barrels of oil a day. A barrel contains 42 gallons, and a gallon contains 3.8 litres.

"Now it is more than seven million and increasing," the Daily Express said.

It said the business has "created an unexpected boost for the shipping business as supertankers are changing hands for fortunes."

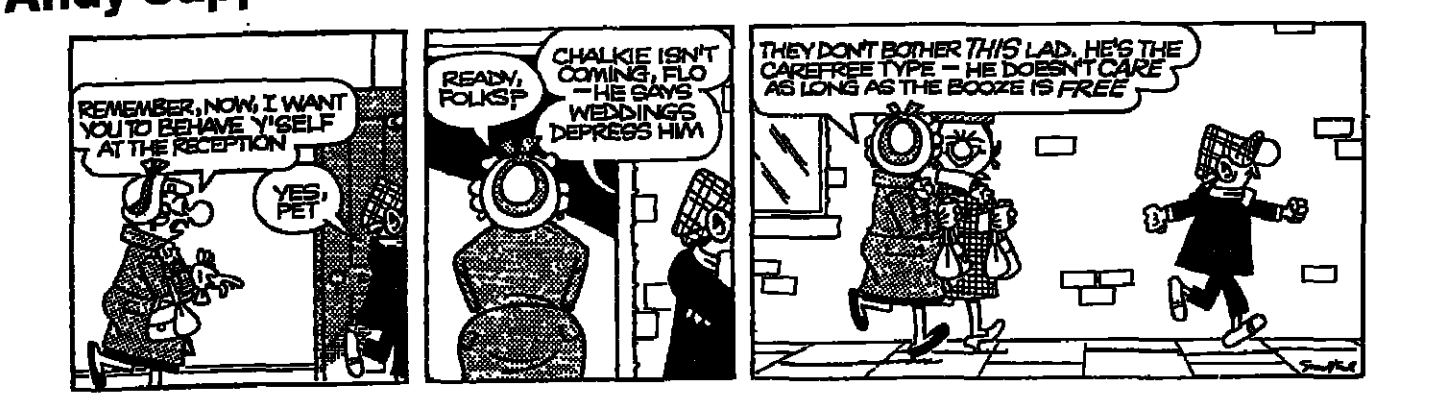
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



"I guess I forgot to tell you... I started a pepperoni-pizza chain letter!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

IPSOE

TUISE

HERNUT

GOTHE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: STOOPT CLOTH RADIAL HUNGRY

Yesterday's Jumbles: STOOPT CLOTH RADIAL HUNGRY

Answer: A fabulously successful baker might bring these words to mind—ROLLS IN DOUGH

U.S. report raises questions about reliability of MX missiles

WASHINGTON (AP) — Problems with the guidance systems of the multi-warhead MX missiles are raising "serious questions" about the dependability of one of the nation's front-line nuclear weapons, a House committee report says.

Twenty two of an expected MX force of 100 missiles have been deployed, but one-third of those deployed are not operational because of problems in their guidance systems, the report says.

"Of the 22 deployed so far, eight don't even have a guidance system and are thus clearly and obviously unguided missiles," said Representative Les Aspin, an opposition Democrat and chairman of the House Armed Services Committee that released the report Sunday.

"The air force says the other 14 are fine, but it has appointed a scientific panel to look into the issues, which indicates the air force isn't so sure," he said in a statement.

The report from the Democratic-controlled panel was sharply critical of Northrop Corp., which

built the inertial measurement unit, as the guidance system is formally known. It also criticised the air force for not having an adequate system of checks and balances on contractors.

Instead of checking for quality, the air force pushed quantity and Northrop responded by building the programme so rapidly that corners were cut, the report said.

The Washington Post, meanwhile, reported in Monday's edition that the air force has suspended all MX flight tests while it seeks to resolve questions about the missiles' accuracy. The newspaper based its report on unidentified Defence Department and congressional sources.

The newspaper said Brig.-Gen. Charles A. May Jr., air force deputy director for advanced programmes, confirmed that the

air force decided to delay three remaining MX flight tests "so that we could better understand these changes" in missile accuracy.

LT.-Col. Richard Oborn, a spokesman for the air force, disputed the congressional committee's conclusions about the accuracy of the weapon, which is known formally as the Peacekeeper.

"There's no question about the capability of the Peacekeeper system. Its accuracy has been demonstrated in 17 test flights," Col. Oborn said.

Tony Cantafio, a spokesman for Northrop, said he had not seen the panel's report and could not respond to specifics in the document.

But Mr. Cantafio said, "the air force has stated that the guidance unit is exceeding its reliability requirements and has met or exceeded its accuracy requirements in the 17 test flights thus far."

"Our problem has been one of quantity, not quality," Mr. Can-

tafio said. "Since May, 21 new units have been accepted by the air force and we've reduced the backlog from 23 to 17 units."

However, the report said that of the 17 tests conducted, only five used the type of guidance system that would actually go on the MX deployed in a silo. The other dozen were test versions.

"As a result of the significant management deficiencies and ineffective programme monitoring, serious questions of confidence in the deployed MX missile force have arisen," the report said.

"The air force likes to cite the success of the test programme," Mr. Aspin said. "But our investigation shows that only five of the 17 test shots have used the production version of the guidance system, as opposed to the research version."

"And of those five shots, two fell far outside the target zone," he said. Col. Oborn agreed that only five tests used the production version of the guidance system.

Aide denies Gorbachev plans to visit U.S.

MOSCOW (AP) — Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said Monday that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has no plans to travel to the United States next month.

The Los Angeles Times reported Sunday that Mr. Gorbachev planned to go to New York for the late-September opening of the U.N. General Assembly, then possibly to Washington for meetings with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Asked by telephone about the report that a U.S. visit was planned, Mr. Gerasimov said: "We have no such news. This is not true."

Administration officials with the president at his California ranch also have denied that a summit is being prepared.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz are to meet on Sept. 15-17 in the United States to work toward a treaty eliminating both sides' short- and medium-range nuclear missiles.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

Mr. Gorbachev has said repeatedly that he will travel to Washington, as agreed during his first meeting with Mr. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985, only when the two nations have made progress toward an arms control accord and better relations.

Superpower disarmament talks in Geneva are said to be close to producing an agreement, but the two negotiating teams are at odds over whether 72 West German Pershing 1-A missiles armed with U.S. warheads should be covered by the pact.

COLUMNS 768

Radio reopens as Beirut cools

BEIRUT (R) — Beirut radio resumed broadcasts Monday after a 10-day closure prompted by a summer heatwave. The state-owned radio in mainly Muslim west Beirut shut down on Aug. 14 when staff complained of torrid heat, fainting fits and rotting electrical cables. "Beirut Radio will remain the official voice that should not stop," an announcer said Monday after the temperature moderated and workers completed repairs to studio wiring. Scores of commercial radios are currently operating in Lebanon despite the country's 12-year civil war.

China cuts down lavish state banquets

PEKING (R) — State banquets in China will last no longer than 90 minutes and guests will be limited to four dishes and one soup, according to new rules. The number of guests will also be cut and if foreign delegations exceed their quota they will be given the bill, the People's Daily reported. It quoted China's head of diplomatic protocol as saying the new measures will save time, expense and the energy of the country's leaders. The rules also say Chinese leaders and ministers will no longer host return banquets when they go abroad and will not entertain diplomats of those countries on returning to Peking. Similarly, foreign dignitaries need not host return banquets when they visit China. One Asian diplomat recalled with some nostalgia the banquets of 15 years ago when even lowly foreign officials were feted with up to 40 courses. In the last decade of reform and pragmatism, courses had been cut down to seven, he said. The new rules, described as diplomatic reforms, also stated that visiting leaders and ministers will be given the comfort of limousines to bring them from Peking airport but other officials must take mini-buses. "In the past a motorcade of a distinguished foreign visitor could be as long as one kilometre and it seriously disrupted traffic," Tang Longbin was quoted as saying.

Thousands tap dance in Manhattan

NEW YORK (AP) — More than 3,800 people tap-danced their way into the record book in midtown Manhattan to the beat of Irving Berlin's "Steppin' Out." The dancers included an 85-year-old, seven deaf students and 8-week-old Daniel Sean Wallace, his mother Tina Wallace, 26, and his 74-year-old grandfather, George Carlson. "Tap-O-Mania" was sponsored by Macy's Department Store to break the record for the largest tap-dancing production, set last year with 3,783. Before the dancing started, 150 tap dance captains spent the morning teaching the steps. New York has held the Guinness Book of World Records mark since 1984, when it recaptured the title from Australia, said Macy's spokeswoman Judy Cohn. The event included hoopers from Britain, Antigua, France and Canada, but nobody from Australia. "It's really wonderful, in the spirit of the Olympics, that another country took us on," said Jean McFadden, Macy's director of special productions. But, she said, "we can't let that record get away from us." Choreographer Kathy Gergin called the steps while a recording of Fred Astaire singing "Steppin' Out" blared.

Alcohol blamed for higher suicide rate

YELLOWKNIFE, Canada (AP) — In Fort Resolution, a town of 450 people on the southern shore of Great Slave Lake in Canada's Northwest Territories, six young men have killed themselves in the past three years. The suicide victims, aged 17 to 24, were all unemployed and had a history of either alcohol or drug abuse. Among the victims were two of Paul Boucher's oldest and closest friends. "It's pretty scary. It's like part of my childhood has been wiped away," says Boucher, who is an alcohol and drug counsellor at the local community centre. The suicides left Boucher feeling somewhat responsible. "At first I wondered, should I just kill myself too?" he recalls. "But I knew that I shouldn't think that way and that maybe through my work or my example I could help someone else avoid this." Last week, Boucher engaged in a series of meetings with local Indian elders as well as school, health and police officials to try to come up with a community strategy to deal with the problem. A recent national task force report showed that on a per-capita basis northerners kill themselves at a dramatically higher rate than people in southern Canada. According to the report, the suicide rate is 35.1 per 100,000 people in the Yukon and 25.5 per 100,000 in the Northwest Territories. The national rate is 12.9 per 100,000. The differences reflect the fact that two high risk groups — Indians and those who abuse alcohol — are heavily represented in the north, where support systems are scarce.

Israel screens volunteers for AIDS

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's kibbutzim have started to run AIDS tests on foreign volunteers' blood samples, a spokesman for a kibbutz umbrella organisation has said. Some 25,000 foreign volunteers come annually from as far as the United States, Australia and Britain to work at the country's 273 kibbutzim, or communal farms. Shlomo Leshem said. Leshem, a spokesman for the United Kibbutz Movement, said many Kibbutzim "are already performing AIDS tests on foreign volunteers."

Hart attends Irish sports event

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) — Former U.S. presidential hopeful Gary Hart cleared up the mystery of his whereabouts when he attended a Gaelic football match on Sunday. Press Association said. Sen. Hart joined tens of thousands of cheering fans at the match, but sat in the VIP box at Dublin's Croke Park Stadium while the Meath County team waged its victorious fight against Derry's team, the British domestic news agency said. It said he slipped away early, avoiding reporters' questions about reports that he might rejoin the race for the Democratic nomination in the 1988 presidential election. The former senator from Colorado pulled out on May 8 after reports he was involved with a model, Donna Rice.

China's crowded hospitals criticised

PEKING (R) — Chinese hospitals are overflowing with pregnant women lying in corridors while nearby expensive hotels have rooms to spare, a newspaper has protested. The Guangming Daily gave the example of Hefei City where it said 10 per cent of women waiting to give birth had to lie in corridors, while a hotel spent 1.5 million yuan (\$1.5 million) replacing wooden window frame with aluminium. The city in the eastern province of Anhui recently built 300 hotels and hostels with 30,000 beds of which only 60 per cent were normally occupied, the newspaper said.

Man caught in bed with woman expelled

PEKING (R) — China which bans sex between unmarried couples has expelled a West German businessman after police burst into his hotel room in the middle of the night and caught him in bed with a Chinese woman. The man worked for the industrial company Siemens and company sources said he was thrown out of China earlier this month. "He was caught in flagrante," one source said this weekend, describing how the man ignored warnings by his Peking hotel staff not to take a Chinese woman into his room. His passport was confiscated and he was expelled within a day or so, the source said. The fate of the woman was unknown but Chinese residents said her likely punishment was months in a labour reform centre. Sex between unmarried couples is illegal in China. The law is not often enforced though young people do receive warnings from neighbourhood committees which monitor the movements of people, especially foreigners, in against the law and contrary to Chinese morality. Health Minister Chen Minzheng was quoted as saying this month by the weekly Peking Review. For these reasons, the minister argued, the killer disease AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) would not spread easily through China.

Ferry capsizes near Dhaka; 60 missing

DHAKA (R) — At least 60 people were missing after an overcrowded ferry capsized in the Buriganga River outside Dhaka Sunday night, police said Monday.

They said divers were still searching the hull of the Savani which sank after a collision with a pillar of a bridge.

Local officials said some of the missing could have swum ashore but many passengers, including women and children, must have drowned.

A salvage vessel was expected to lift the ferry out of water Monday, they said.

Meanwhile, floodwaters have begun receding from northern Bangladesh, the region hit hardest by the nation's worst floods for 40 years, officials said Monday. But vast areas in the south east

have been freshly inundated as waters from the north slowly roll towards the Bay of Bengal, the Flood Emergency Centre in Dhaka said.

Thirty more deaths were reported in the last 24 hours, bringing the known death toll past 550. Officials said scores more might die from disease or starvation.

Nearly half the deaths were caused by drowning and others by the collapse of mud-walled houses, snakebite and disease, officials in the devastated areas told reporters.

A fast-spreading diarrhoea epidemic has killed more than 100 people, mostly children, and at least 10,000 others have been infected, health officials said.

Hundreds of others are suffering from malaria and malnutrition, they added.

"The situation is worsening ev-

ery day. Maybe the worst has yet to come," one official at Dhanpur in the north told Reuters Sunday night.

President Hossain Mohammad Ershad has appealed to friendly countries and donor agencies for more than \$100 million in emergency aid.

A senior official said Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest countries, had lost more than one billion taka (\$330 million) worth of crops, property and infrastructure.

Despite repeated appeals, Bangladesh has so far drawn more sympathy than money from abroad.

Apparently worried by the lukewarm response, Gen. Ershad has decided to send special envoys abroad to seek emergency relief.

"The situation is worsening ev-

Philippine rebels kill businessman in ambush

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Suspected Communist rebels killed the campaign manager of President Corazon Aquino's sister-in-law, and militant unions launched new protests Monday against state-mandated fuel price hikes.

Elsewhere, Communist rebels burned a private train belonging to a large sugar cooperative on Negros Island Sunday, two days after rebels suffered casualties in a raid on a town hall on the central Philippine island.

Police said four gunmen ambushed businessman Jesus Mariano, 51, on a street near his north Manila home Sunday and escaped. Police said they suspected the killers were rebel urban guerrillas, known as "sparrows" for the swiftness of their attacks.

Mariano ran the successful campaign of Tessa Aquino-Oreta, who was elected to the House of Representatives last May in a race marred by charges of vote fraud. Leftists charged widespread vote-buying in Mrs. Aquino-Oreta's campaign. She denied the allegation.

Mrs. Aquino-Oreta is the sister of Mrs. Aquino's late husband, Benigno, an exiled opposition leader who was killed when he returned to the Philippines four years ago.

Mr. Mariano's murder was the latest in a string of unsolved killings that Mrs. Aquino has branded the gravest threat to the country's fledgling democracy.

Meanwhile, the militant May 1st Movement said it would stage work stoppages Monday at selected factories in Manila and other major cities as a prelude to a nationwide strike planned for Wednesday to demand a rollback of fuel price hikes.

But he also ordered a stay until Wednesday of the injunction now in effect to allow the British government to appeal against the decision.

Robert Ribeiro, representing the British government, said he would seek instructions from London on any possible appeal.

The sale of the book is not banned in the British colony and it is fast becoming a best-seller.